7 finish TanHoldings internship. PAGE 2
Hawaii, Guam get more funds to abate Compact impact. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune
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Volume XXVII, Issue No. 158
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➤ Trump, North Korea trade escalating threats of fire. PAGE 17

In this May 13, 2017 file photo, Japanese soldiers use rubber rafts as part of an amphibious drill during joint military exercises between the U.S., Japan, France and the United Kingdom, on Naval Base Guam.

AP

Calvo: Guam is prepared

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Torres creates Nuclear Threat Working Group

Many pooh-poohed yesterday the escalating tension between North Korea and the United States but, just in case, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres created a working group that will respond to a nuclear threat.

See CALVO on Page 4

Guam residents fear attack

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO and CATHY BUSSEWITZ
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Residents of the tiny Pacific island of Guam say they're afraid of being caught in the middle of escalating tensions between the U.S. and North Korea after Pyongyang announced it was examining plans for attack-

See GUAM on Page 4

MCS1 GRETCHEN M. ALBRECHT/NAVAL HOSPITAL BREMERTON

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Edward Brice Sablan is ceremoniously frocked on July 14, 2017, under the Meritoriously Advancement Program, to his current rate. Add the Fleet Marine Force qualification pin he received on the same deployment that he was cited for the Purple Heart and his uniform shows accomplishments that speak volumes.

Sablan reflects on Purple Heart

By DOUGLAS STUTZ
NAVAL HOSPITAL BREMERTON

On Dec. 16, 2012, the harsh, unforgiving landscape of Helmand province, Afghanistan, came crashing into Hospital Corpsman First Class Edward Brice Sablan.

Riding in a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle as part of an escort patrol in the war-torn Marjah region, his immediate world and that of the Marines with him was suddenly transformed. A sudden blast tore into the undercarriage, sending an estimated 200-lb homemade im-

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INSIDE

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U.S. elections are so decentralized it would be impossible for hackers to manipulate them.
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The new constitutional assembly assumed even more power in Venezuela.
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Glen Campbell, the affable superstar singer of "Rhinestone Cowboy," has died.
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Local

JON PEREZ
TanHoldings Corp. executives led by president Jerry Tan, third from left, join participants of the 2nd Annual TanHoldings Summer Internship Program in yesterday's completion ceremony at Kanoa Resort's Latte Stone Hall.

7 finish TanHoldings internship

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seven youngsters were feted yesterday at the Kanoa Resort's Latte Stone Hall to signal their completion of the 2nd Annual TanHoldings Summer Internship Program.

TanHoldings Corporate Affairs vice president Catherine Attao, considered as one of the brains behind the paid internship program, said that helping build the life skills of today's youth is one of the goals of the program.

Attao said they came up with the program after thinking of how TanHoldings could help young interns experience the overall structure of the company. "We started with the program at Kanoa Resort last year and expanded it to seven other [business units] this year. We want to help their life skills and prepare them for the real world," she said.

The interns were mentored by TanHoldings employees as they learned the daily operations of each business—Century Insurance, D&Q Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa-Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Let's Go/Sea Touch, RMS, POI Aviation, and *Saipan Tribune*—in six weeks.

"Learning basic life skills like decision-making, problem solving, and critical thinking, would give them the confidence and good understanding of responsibilities when they enter the workforce through their chosen careers," added Attao, who also supervised the program with Tan Holdings Community Relations director Carline Sablan.

TanHoldings president Jerry Tan congratulated all the interns for completing the program. "As some of you approach high school graduation and deciding what you want to do, the things you learned here are different from school."

"Some of you might decide to go to college [off-island] or at [Northern Marianas College], go directly to the workforce, or join the military, there are many options. But it won't be high school anymore," Tan said.

"The ones in school and real work are different. The program would help you prepare in making that big transition in your chosen careers. One thing is for sure, learning never stops."

TanHoldings senior vice president Eli Arago thanked all business units for the time they spent in training the interns despite their busy work schedules. "We all have our own work schedule but this is an important program for us. We are really thankful for your time."

He reminded the interns to remember three things: "'Acquisition of knowledge, retention of knowledge, and application of knowledge.' All must be present to see for you to learn something."

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Guilty plea in CW-1 scam case accepted

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge John C. Coughenour accepted yesterday the guilty plea of one of six defendants in a CW-1 scam case.

On Monday, Zeaur Rahman Dalu pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud in foreign contracting. He will be sentenced on Dec. 22, 2017.

Dalu had been charged with one count of mail fraud and two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

The jury trial of Dalu's five co-defendants will start on Tuesday, Aug. 15.

According to the U.S. government, the defendants collected large amounts of money—roughly between $15,000 and $20,000—from each of 12 victims, all of them Bangladeshi nationals, in exchange for promises of jobs that didn't exist.

Meanwhile, Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy has amended the release conditions of Xiufang Qi, a staff of Beilida Overseas who is among five persons who've been indicted for allegedly harboring aliens who worked at the Imperial Pacific's casino project in Garapan.

Kennedy said Qi may seek the permission of the U.S. Probation Office if she wants to exercise.

Qi, through counsel, had asked the court to allow her some freedom so she could take care of personal matters during the day.

According to her counsel, Qi has been essentially under "house arrest" with electronic monitoring and has complied with the conditions of her pre-trial release.

The U.S. government opposed her request.

Her jury trial is scheduled on Oct. 31, 2017. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

'Kantan Isla' to be revived

After a silence of 13 years, the indigenous musical festival "Kantan Isla" will be revived.

First established on Saipan in 1998, Kantan Isla became an annual event until it was abruptly stopped in 2004.

The current Commonwealth Council of Arts and Culture decided it is about time to revive the tradition.

According to folk art coordinator Gloriana Teuira, this will bring back the art of song writing and performances, even if it is only for an evening.

"We want to motivate our youth to compose their own music in Chamorro and Carolinian," Teuira said.

The tradition will also motivate local musicians to share their original pieces.

The music festival would be held on Sept. 29, 2017, at the Garapan Fishing Base, from 5pm to 11pm.

For more information, contact Teuira at 322-9982/83.

Teuira said the entire community is welcome to experience the joys of indigenous music.

Ten vendor slots are also open for non-profit organizations, families, and churches that want to raise funds. Tents will be provided by the council but a $25 park and recreation fee is required. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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7M032	SILVER, 4-CYL. ENGINE, AT, BACK-UP CAM, ALLOY WHEELS	$4,500	$20,495
7M033	BLUE, 4-CYL. ENGINE, AT, BACK-UP CAM, ALLOY WHEELS	$4,500	$20,495
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SABLAN

From Page 1

provised explosive device into members of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment.

Sablan, sitting directly behind the auxiliary driver, was knocked momentarily unconscious by the force of the explosion. When he came to amidst the aftermath of swirling smoke, choking dust, and minimal visibility, his thoughts immediately went to the others.

"My concern was for my Marines. I was worried about everyone else. We all got knocked out, including the driver, gunner, and other passengers. I instantly started assessing the others," said Sablan.

Everyone had cuts, minor lacerations, and bruises from debris and shrapnel, except the auxiliary driver. The explosion had severely injured his lower torso.

"I had to get him out right away. I pulled him out and stabilized his wounds as much as possible. We had set up a defensive posture—there were potshots coming at us—and I protected and cared for him until the helo [helicopter] landed and transported him on to Camp Leatherneck," related Sablan.

It was upon returning to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California after the seven-month deployment that Sablan discovered he would be a recipient of the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during combat operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

"I felt very undeserving compared to what others have gone through and then been presented the Purple Heart," Sablan said, adding that it was a senior hospital corpsman who shared with him the real significance of being presented the Purple Heart.

"He said that that 'you're not wearing it for yourself. You're wearing it for all those who never made it back.' To have it explained like that meant a lot," said Sablan.

That specific meaning was also a driving force behind commemorating Aug. 7, 2017, as Purple Heart Day to remember 1782 when Gen. George Washington created the Purple Heart Medal—then known as the Badge of Military Merit—as a military decoration that is presented to those wounded or killed while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Sablan, from Saipan, has been assigned to Naval Hospital Bremerton for the last two and a half of his eight and a half years in the Navy. He is currently the assistant leading petty officer of Family Practice. He was also recently ceremoniously frocked under the Meritoriously Advancement Program to his current rate. Add the Fleet Marine Force qualification pin he received on the same deployment that he was cited for the Purple Heart and his uniform shows accomplishments that speak volumes even when he remains soft-spoken.

"It is very humbling to be recognized not just for the Purple Heart. There are others just as worthy for the MAP. There are others who have been on a combat deployment and earned their FMF. There are others who have been in the thick of it," Sablan said.

That fateful patrol was part of yet another long day near Marjah, the epicenter of a continuous battle by the Marines with Taliban. Sablan and the rest of his platoon had just wrapped up an eight-hour foot patrol before heading back to Patrol Base Boldak. Word was then passed that an escort platoon was needed for helping with route clearance with a U.S. Air Force contingent.

Two vehicles in the convoy passed over the IED with no detonation. The third was nowhere near as lucky.

"MRAPs are made to take a punch, but that blast blew a hole into it, right where Corporal Cody Jones was sitting," Sablan said.

Jones' injuries resulted in the amputation of his left leg, below the knee and right, midfoot amputation.

Sablan attests that his training kicked in. Concern for his own wellbeing was a distant thought to caring for those he was assigned to as their corpsman and 'doc.'

"For all of us who go on the 'green side' with the Marines, being motivated is good. Being smart is great. But be prepared and be humble. We are there to take care of our Marines. That's our job, that's our sole purpose. That's why we are who we are. Our job is to make sure that they all get back home, and we got to do everything we can to make that happen," said Sablan.

The Purple Heart is the oldest military award still being given in the name of the President of the United States. Historical notes show that after the end of the American War of Independence, no medals were awarded until 1932, when the Purple Heart was revived on the bicentennial anniversary of George Washington's birth. According to a circular dated Feb. 22, 1932, Purple Heart Medal(s) were to be awarded to those wounded or killed while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces as a result of enemy action on or after April 5, 1917. The United States officially joined World War I on April 6, 1917. Since then, approximately 1.8 million Purple Hearts have been presented, including to the initial three Revolutionary soldiers in 1783.

Sablan is the son of Margaret B. Muña and Edward R. Sablan of Saipan.

CALVO

From Page 1

Torres said the creation of the Nuclear Threat Working Group is in the "best interest of the people of the CNMI."

Torres signed Executive Directive 2017-003 yesterday to form the Nuclear Threat Working Group after multiple news outlets reported that North Korea is weighing a plan to pre-emptively hit the neighboring island of Guam with a nuclear attack in response to U.S. President Donald J. Trump's comment that North Korean threats to the U.S. "will be met with fire and fury like the world has ever seen."

According to the Torres directive, the working group will be composed of representatives of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Public Health, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, and the governor's authorized representative and would be headed by the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. It would be working with regional and federal partners to update the All Hazards Response Program to include the addressing of nuclear threats.

The working group would address "potential nuclear threats to our region," the directive states.

A statement from the Torres administration yesterday quoted Joint Region Marianas Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield as saying that "no imminent threat exists for both Guam and the NMI" and that the community would be informed by both the U.S. Department of Defense and the Guam government "as this situation develops."

NMI keeps an eye out

Although Torres assured that no imminent threat is present for both Guam and the CNMI, the Commonwealth government is keeping an eye out, just in case.

Special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Gerald Deleon Guerrero and his office is monitoring the situation "closely" while keeping communications with both the Guam Office of Homeland Security and Civil Defense and the Mariana Regional Fusion Center.

"We continue to be in close coordination … on any potential courses of action in order to prepare for such threats," said Deleon Guerrero in the Torres statement.

The Torres administration urged the "community to remain calm and to continue going about their daily activities."

"I will remain in close contact with our military officials, the federal government, and our local emergency first responders. We will continue to prepare for anything, and we will continue to keep our loved ones in Guam in our thoughts."

'Deeply troubling'

A statement by Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) stressed that Trump should work "in partnership with the international community to de-escalate the growing tensions in the region and prevent North Korea from advancing its nuclear program further."

"While the recent sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council were an effort to demonstrate to [North Korean leader Kim Jong Un] that his actions will not go unanswered, President Trump must show steady leadership as these sanctions are carried out."

The recent sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council last Aug. 5, 2017, included bans on North Korea's export of coal, iron, iron ore, lead, lead ore, and seafood, costing Pyongyang more than $1 billion in income annually.

According to Bordallo, North Korea's "escalatory actions are an international problem" and that efforts must be continued to "bring a peaceful resolution to the North Korean threat," before reiterating that "Guam remains safe."

"… I am confident in the ability of U.S. defenses to protect our island and allies in the region," she said.

'America will be defended'

A statement by Guam Gov. Eddie B. Calvo yesterday said, "Guam is prepared for any eventuality."

According to Calvo's statement, he reached out to the White House yesterday morning.

"An attack or threat to Guam is an attack or threat [to] the United States. [The White House] has said that America will be defended," reads part of the statement.

In addition to ongoing regional and federal communications, Calvo assured that there is no immediate threat to the CNMI or Guam. He added that, according to Guam Homeland Security adviser George Charfauros, "several levels of defense are all strategically placed to protect [Guam] and our nation."

"I am working with Homeland Security, the rear admiral [Chatfield], and the United States to ensure our safety," said Calvo.

GUAM

From Page 1

ing the strategically important U.S. territory.

Though local officials downplayed any threat, people who live and work on the island, which serves as a launching pad for the U.S. military, said Wednesday they could no longer shrug off the idea of being a potential target.

"I'm a little worried, a little panicked. Is this really going to happen?" said Cecil Chugrad, a 37-year-old bus driver for a tour bus company in Guam. "If it's just me, I don't mind, but I have to worry about my son. I feel like moving (out of Guam) now."

Guam is used to the threats from North Korea but advances in the country's nuclear program paired with fiery rhetoric from President Donald Trump has raised the already high animosity and heightened worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

Reports suggested North Korea mastered a technological hurdle needed to strike the U.S. with a nuclear missile. The advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment and later a Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report.

In response, Trump on Tuesday threatened the communist country "with fire and fury." On Wednesday, the North Korean army said in a statement that it was studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles.

While it is extremely unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a pre-emptive attack on U.S. citizens, some residents are concerned.

"If anything happens, we all got to be ready, be prepared, and pray to God that it doesn't happen," Daisy Mendiola, 56, said after finishing lunch with her family at a restaurant near Hagatna. "Everyone's afraid, because we're dealing with powers that's beyond us."

Other residents are worried about the political atmosphere and the government's ability to find a peaceful solution.

Todd Thompson, a lawyer who lives on Guam, said he laughed off past threats because he "figured cooler heads in Washington would prevail, and it was just an idle threat."

"But I have to say, I'm not laughing now," Thompson said. "My concern is that things have changed in Washington, and who knows what's going to happen?"

His brother Mitch Thompson, who also lives on Guam, added he believes "a lot of people have no confidence that the White House will do the right thing under the circumstances."

However, the brothers say they haven't seen anyone panicking or stocking up on supplies.

"I think people are just stunned and really don't know what to think," Todd Thompson said.

Guam is about 2,100 miles (3,380 kilometers) southeast of Pyongyang and 3,800 miles (6,115 kilometers) west of Honolulu in the Pacific Ocean. For years, North Korea has claimed Guam is within its missiles' striking distance, making furious statements each time when the U.S. flew powerful bombers from the island's air base to the Korean Peninsula.

In August last year, the North's Foreign Ministry warned that all U.S. military bases in the Pacific including Guam would "face ruin in the face of all-out and substantial attack" by the North's military. In the spring of 2013, state media cited leader Kim Jong Un as having ordered his military to prepare plans on launching strikes on U.S. military bases in Guam, Hawaii and South Korea as well as the American mainland.

Guam is armed with the U.S. Army's defense system known as Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, which can intercept missiles.

Similar threats in 2013 led Guam's U.S. Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to advocate for the THAAD system, she said in a statement Wednesday.

"North Korea's most recent threat to target Guam is dangerous and it further heightens tensions in our region," Bordallo said. "While we have heard threats like this in the past, I take them very seriously."

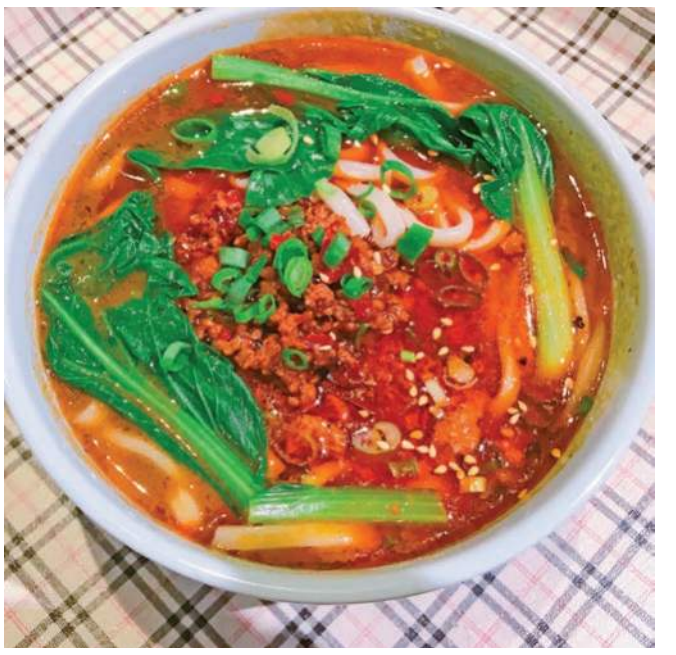
Guam's Homeland Security Adviser George Charfauros urged calm and said defenses are in place for such threats.

"An attack or threat to Guam is a threat or attack on the United States," said Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, who said he spoke with White House officials Monday morning. "They have said that America will be defended."

A travel agent on Guam said they haven't had a surge of customers seeking to book flights off the island.

"It's not bad at all, no chaos," said Mariah Sablan, who works for Golden Dragon Travel Inc. "It's just like a regular business day."

Noodle House favorites at Sichuan Restaurant



By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Sichuan Restaurant in Garapan began serving this week several Noodle House favorites.

The Noodle House, which first began operations at the best Sunshine Live casino training facility two years ago, may have closed down when the casino moved out of T Galleria in July, but many of its popular dishes can now be had at the Sichuan Restaurant in Garapan.

"We ran the Noodle House for two years people and loved our food," said Lucy Go, Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s assistant vice president of Hospitality & Affairs. "It has been a month since we closed and many of our loyal customers were saddened and kept asking us when are we going to open and where. We felt that we have a strong following and we did not want to disappoint people. In the meantime, Sichuan Restaurant allowed us to serve Noodle House favorite dishes in the restaurant."

The food and beverage team from the old Noodle House will also form the team that is going to cook the dishes in Sichuan. Go is proud to have the services of Chen Hai Song, who has worked in Michelin-starred restaurants in Beijing, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Singapore.

"Our executive chef, Chen Hai Song, is still with us since two years ago. In fact, he just arrived from Beijing a couple of days ago. We got the best chef and he is with us on Saipan."

She assured that people's favorite dishes will be cooked the authentic Chinese way.

Future plans involve putting up the Noodle House restaurant back on Saipan and running it for 24 hours. Go said there are plans of having a restaurant inside the Imperial Pacific Resort Casino but nothing is final.

"Our focus now is our food and to target both loyal and new customers. Like in the old Noodle House, we give our customers preference as to spiciness so our food and service is just like before."

NMI govt wants to fine Castle Projects

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although Castle Projects (CNMI) LLC had already obtained a certificate of occupancy from the Department of Public Works for one of the buildings in Tanapag, the CNMI government still intends to impose a fine on the company for alleged violations.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Pugh, counsel for acting DPW Building Safety official Casiano M. Bostre, informed the court about the government's position on Monday.

This prompted Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio to refer the case to mediation.

Castle Projects owns the renovated former Top Fashion Garment that housed construction workers, including illegal aliens, for Imperial Pacific International LLC's casino project in Garapan.

Michael Dotts, counsel for Castle Projects, said there is no date for the mediation yet and he is unsure how much of a fine the CNMI wants to impose.

As of press time, *Saipan Tribune* was still trying to get commentsh from Pugh.

Dotts said the case was filed because Castle Projects lacked a permit for one building.

The lawyer said Castle Project had, in fact, applied for the permit before the case was filed, and then quickly obtained the permit.

"For these reasons there should not be any fine, but we will see what the CNMI has to say when we go to mediation," he said.

Bostre filed a court action early this year against Castle Projects for allegedly housing a number of construction workers at the renovated building despite two notices of violation issued by DPW.

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Hawaii, Guam get more funds to abate Compact impact

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of the Interior has made available two technical assistance grants totaling $467,095 to support one-stop centers in Guam and Hawaii that provide information and services to migrants from the freely associated states.

The amounts will go to the "Micronesia Resource Center" in Guam and the "We are Oceania Hālau Ola" in Hawaii, according to acting Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula. These centers help citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau.

A third grant for $63,249 will be used to strengthen organizations providing family services in Guam, and a fourth grant for $77,349 will support similar efforts in Springdale, Arkansas, which large communities of Marshallese migrants now call home.

"This is a pilot effort which we have supported to help the governments of Guam and Hawaii, in particular as they struggle with high costs related to serving FAS migrants and others," said Pula. "We have partnered with local non-government organizations that have connections and leverage within their communities to strengthen Micronesian families and to help those who are disenfranchised find the information, services and opportunities which they need to thrive, to be successful, and ultimately to reduce their impact on government."

A total of $217,095 will be provided to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam to strengthen the Micronesia Resource Center One Stop Shop's effort to provide training for résumé building and job search, orientation assistance to new migrants, family support initiatives in parenting, financial literacy, health and wellness, youth mentoring, and domestic violence prevention.

Since opening in October 2015, MRCOSS has managed well over 1,000 cases and, through public outreach, has participated in community events, neighborhood gatherings, as well as canvassed door-to-door.

They have consulted with Guam government agencies and participated in numerous ad-hoc committees and groups tackling issues such as homelessness, safe neighborhoods, public safety and public health.

The MRCOSS, now in its third year of funding from OIA, will continue working on its goal to establish itself independently as its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Some $63,249 will be used to provide executive mentoring services to new and fledgling nonprofit organizations on Guam to improve delivery of services, financial management, board development, and volunteer management.

The primary groups participating in training to become high-performing organizations include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam, Alee Family Violence Shelter, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Victim Advocates Reaching Out, and others. These groups have been taking more active roles to address the increasing incidences on Guam of family-based social problems and to engage with Guam's disenfranchised youth through outdoor sports, hikes, community gardening and related programs.

Education indicators from the 2010 Census show that 75.5 percent of Chamorro students in Guam complete high school compared to a 53.8 percent rate among Chuukese in Guam and 96.7 percent among white students. In 2014, the USDA reported that 70 percent of children enrolled in Guam schools received free or reduced lunch.

A total of $250,000 will be provided to Partners in Development Foundation in Hawaii to continue mentorship of the We are Oceania group as it helps to bridge gaps and to address challenges faced by the Micronesian communities in Hawaii, including homelessness, urgent medical needs, student truancy, lack of job readiness skills, increasing numbers of children in child welfare services, and increasing numbers of juvenile and adult incarcerations.

The We are Oceania group has been noted as unique for being the first program where Micronesians are serving and addressing the needs of their own people. Funds will help Micronesians transition successfully and flourish in Hawaii, while also reducing negative impressions of migrants and encouraging individuals to counsel and guide others from their homelands to achieve success.

Since the opening of We are Oceania Hālau Ola - One Stop Center in 2015, the group has been able to help more than 4,200 FAS nationals seeking assistance in the areas of health, education, employment, child welfare services, legal and public assistance, housing, social security, passport and I-94 replacement, guardianship, and taxes.

There has been an overwhelmingly positive response from the Micronesian community as well as the larger community in Hawaii and back home in the islands.

"We are grateful for the assistance that has been provided to assist Micronesians in Guam and Hawaii, where the impact is greatest," said FSM ambassador to the U.S. Akillino Susaia. "Our citizens reside all over the United States, and we are proud of the contributions that they make in communities across America and especially in the U.S. military. We have been working closely with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to ensure that FSM citizens across the U.S. are able to obtain driver's licenses and identification cards in a timely manner and in accordance with what is provided for under the Compact of Free Association."

Under the Compacts of Free Association first approved in Public Law 99-239 (1986) and Public Law 99-658 (1994), and later amended in Public Law 108-188 (2003), citizens of the FSM, RMI, and Palau are legal nonimmigrants allowed, for indefinite periods of time, to live, work and study in the United States without need for a visa. They also serve in the U.S. military and currently serve in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces in large numbers that are disproportionate to the sizes of their populations.

The Compact agreements terminated the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, providing the U.S. with important strategic denial rights to the area in the western Pacific Ocean between Guam and Hawaii.

In 1996, under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, FAS citizens were deemed ineligible for federal public benefits. Thus began what has been a rising concern for Guam and Hawaii governments which have directly borne the cost of

Continued on Next Page

SAIPAN CARES FOR ANIMALS

Free cat adoption month

Saipan's animal welfare group, Saipan Cares for Animals, is hosting a free cat adoption month until the end of August.

All cat and kitten adoptions are free until the end of the month on Aug. 31.

Most of the young cats and kittens at Saipan Cares for Animals are already spayed or neutered. When you adopt through Saipan Cares for Animals, you are assured that your newly adopted animal is up-to-date on all necessary vaccines and has been de-wormed.

Saipan Cares for Animals normally charges $30 for cat adoptions—representing the cost of their vaccine schedule—so this is a great deal you don't want to miss out on.

Come to Saipan Cares for Animals and bring home a furry friend (or two!) to brighten up your home or business. Cats are clean, low-maintenance, and great for keeping rodents out of your space. They are also fabulous companions known to reduce stress and high blood pressure!

Adopt a cat from Saipan Cares for Animals. Call Beth at 285-5448 or visit www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com to find out more. You can also visit Saipan Cares for Animals on Facebook for directions on how to get there! ***(CSA)***

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP-17-CHCC/FACILITY-22

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 11, 2017 TIME: 11:00 AM
BID OPENING DATE: September 11, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM

"GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES, FACILITY, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP-17-CHCC/FACILITY-23

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 11, 2017 TIME: 11:00AM
BID OPENING DATE: September 11, 2017 TIME: 2:00 PM

"FUEL & LUBRICATION SERVICES, FACILITY, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
RFQ-17-CHCC/CGC-01

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM
BID OPENING DATE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:30 PM

"SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) TREATMENT SERVICES, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER (CGC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFQ PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

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PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP17-DFEMS-183

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 07, 2017
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SERVICE BILLINGS FOR AMBULANCE RUNS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES"

THE COMPLETE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, CAPITOL HILL, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, ASCENCION DRIVE, SAIPAN, MP 96950, DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE MADE OUT TO LT. JOHN T. BLAS AT (670) 664-9136 OR E-MAIL AT jtblas@dfems.gov.mp NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, AUGUST 29, 2017**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA
Commissioner, DFEMS

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

public services related to FAS migrants, also referred to as "Compact impact."

A fourth grant in the amount of $77,349.78 is provided to the Marshallese Educational Initiative in Springdale, Arkansas to:

■ Develop a series of seven educational videos to supplement the Marshallese Guide to Northwest Arkansas, which provides information on how to navigate financial systems, health services and higher education. The videos will cover additional topics such as opening bank accounts, purchasing a vehicle, and the pitfalls of high-interest rates and payday loan centers. The videos will be narrated in English and Marshallese with Marshallese actors and posted through social media where they can be available to Marshallese living in the U.S. and in the Marshall Islands.

■ Develop a pilot curriculum that includes Marshallese history and culture materials that can be utilized in middle schools in the Springdale School District. This program will supplement an on-going mentorship program where Marshallese college students tutor younger students to build self-esteem and to inspire academic success as well as goals for higher education. The Springdale School District continues to lament a high dropout rate of their Marshallese students with only 50% of them graduating from high school, a rate far below the U.S. national average.

"The Marshall Islands government is thankful for the assistance from the Interior Department to support the Marshall community in Arkansas," said RMI Ambassador to the U.S. Gerald M. Zackios. "Every year we see more and more of our people using the privileges of our unique, beneficial relationship with the United States to improve themselves and to strengthen the personal and business ties that unite them. I am proud of the resiliency that my fellow citizens display in navigating new lives as far away as Arkansas and trust that this grant will help enable them to be active and productive members of their communities and thereby ensure their further success."

In a recent U.S. Census Bureau estimate using 2010-2014 data, there are approximately 41,380 citizens from the FSM, RMI and Palau living in the 50 states.

The five States with the highest number of FAS citizens are Hawaii (17,205), Arkansas (3,625), Washington (3,430), Oregon (2,580), and Texas (2,090).

These numbers do not incorporate the smaller number of American citizens who are of Micronesian, Marshallese, and Palauan ancestry. ***(DOI)***

HONDA

ATTENTION: HONDA & ACURA OWNERS

FREE AIRBAG REPAIR EVENT

ACURA

This is NOT a Sales Event

URGENT SAFETY ISSUE – You and your passenger's safety may be at risk!
Metal fragments from airbag ruptures have INJURED and KILLED vehicle occupants.

If you own a 2001 - 2016 Honda or Acura vehicle, bring your vehicle to this FREE 3-day Airbag Repair Event (Repair-a-Thon)

Thursday, August 10
Friday, August 11
Saturday, August 12
No Appointment Necessary

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
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Oleai, Beach Road
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FREE
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☑ FREE
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CHECK IF YOUR VEHICLE IS AFFECTED
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Or if you are unavailable to attend this 3-day repair event, please call Joeten Motors to schedule an appointment at a time that is more convenient for you.

For more information call
Joeten Motors, (670) 234-5568

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2017 FALL SEMESTER!

Registration for New, Ongoing, and Readmitted Students
Currently Ongoing until August 18
Register via Proa Portal

First Day of Class
August 21, 2017

Math & English Placement Exam Dates
July 24 – 27, & 31
August 3, 7, & 10

English placement test starts at 9:30am.
Math placement test starts at 1:30pm.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE

For more information, log on to www.marianas.edu or contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771

www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa
www.twitter.com/GoProa

Tinian first responders take part in disability training

As part of its ongoing efforts to enhance services that are provided to individuals with disabilities, the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the Northern Marianas College recently held a training workshop on Tinian designed for first responders.

Participants of the training included members of the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting division of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Tinian Department of Public Safety, the Tinian Health Center, and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

"The training focused on helping first responders prepare for interactions with individuals with disabilities," said Floyd Masga, UCEDD director at Northern Marianas College. "The workshop is part of a series of other workshops we have been hosting for other first responders on Saipan and Rota."

Other objectives of the training included identifying and overcoming barriers that first responders face in serving people with disabilities; providing first responders with the information and methods that will help to ensure effective and appropriate communication between first responders and people with disabilities; and providing first responders with guidance on how to identify characteristics or behaviors of people with disabilities that could mistakenly be viewed as threatening, and to identify best practices to avoid escalating the situation.

Upon completion of the training workshop, participants received certificates from the CNMI UCEDD at NMC.

There were 19 people who attended the training workshop held at the NMC Tinian Center.

According to Jennifer Castro, UCEDD program manager, the training participants expressed their satisfaction with the disability training and said that they learned a lot from the workshop, which would help them in their respective jobs.

"One of the firefighters suggested that the training should be mandatory for all first responders," said Castro.

Marjorie Daria, resident director of the Tinian Health Center, said, "Offering trainings like these can help first responders communicate better with people with disabilities. This can lead to better care and better outcomes for everyone involved. I think that although training for first responders is a priority, anyone who isn't a first responder and is likely to deal with anyone with disabilities, should take advantage of this learning opportunity to better their skills." ***(NMC)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian first responders from the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Division of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Tinian Department of Public Safety, the Tinian Health Center, and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services are joined by Northern Marianas College University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities during a disabilities training held at the NMC Tinian Center.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association support meeting today, Aug. 10, 2017, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker will be Becky Robles, NCDB director, and her presentation will on NCD Bureau Services. Joining her will be Nikki Sablan, PROA program coordinator and Joyce Songsong, breast and cervical program coordinator. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

NMTI to host outreach events

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute, in collaboration with governor's Youth Services, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Division of Youth Services, and precinct representatives, is hosting outreach events designed to help students learn a new trade and earn a job. Staff will be available to explain their programs and help fill out forms. The events will take place at:

■ Aug. 10, Thursday, 5pm - 7pm, Tanapag Youth/Community Center (next to Tanapag Middle School)

■ Aug. 14, Monday, 5pm - 7pm, San Antonio Youth Center (next to San Antonio Church)

■ Aug. 15, Tuesday, 5pm - 7pm, Kagman Community Center (between LaoLao golf and fire station)

■ Aug. 16, Wednesday, 5pm - 7pm, Koblerville Youth Center (next to Koblerville fire station)

■ Aug. 17, Thursday, 5pm - 7pm, Chalan Kanoa Youth Center/Koban (close to Mt. Carmel cemetery)

■ Aug. 18, Friday, 5pm - 7pm, Garapan Community Center (next to the Garapan basketball court)

For more information, call Mae Guerrero at 235-6684. ***(PR)***

Military training at former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada on Aug. 10, from noon to 6pm. These trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the trainings. ***(PR)***

Veterans Choice workshop today

The office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is hosting a Veterans Choice workshop on Saipan today, Aug. 10, 2017, from 5pm to 7pm, at the Pedro T. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. It is open to veterans, their families, and members of the public who would like to learn more about veterans' options for healthcare through the Veterans Administration's Choice program. Representatives of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and TriWest (the VA's third-party administrator for the Choice program) will be present to share information and answer questions. ***(PR)***

Notice to all Kagman farm plot permittees

This is to inform all permittees that Department of Land and Natural Resource agents will be conducting scheduled visits as well as permitting inspections to all Kagman farm plots to determine whether permittees are in compliance with the rules and policies set forth in the Governing Uses of the Kagman Commercial Farm Plot permit.

In order to address issues with violations, DLNR has already begun issuing eviction notices to any permittee engaging in the subleasing or transferring of farm plot(s) to a corporation or partner. This includes the use of the plots to cultivate forbidden substances.

Call the DLNR-Division of Agriculture if there are any questions or concerns to this notice at 256-3318/19 or 322-9834. ***(PR)***

Saturday Story Time in August at AMP

Youth of all ages are invited to join the American Memorial Park on Saturdays (Aug. 12, 19, and 26) from 2pm to 3pm for story time. During the hour, read *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr. This book tells the story of a young girl from Hiroshima, Japan who becomes sick with leukemia in the years after the atomic bomb was dropped on her city, and her race to fold 1,000 paper cranes. Following the reading, everyone will be invited to make paper cranes, just like Sadako did in the story. Throughout the month, 1,000 paper cranes will be folded and sent to the Children's Peace Memorial in Hiroshima Japan.

To learn more about this program or other happenings at the park, contact park ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 or 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. ***(NPS)***

US Navy releases new input dates

The U.S. Navy will accept public comments about the Training and Testing Supplemental Environmental Impact statement for the Mariana Island Training and Testing area until Sept. 15, 2017. Comments must be postmarked or received online by Sept. 15, 2017, for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.MITT-EIS.com or mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific Attention: MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, 258 Makapala Drive, Suite 100 Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134. ***(PR)***

VA benefits outreach on Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be visiting Saipan on Aug. 31, 2017, and will be conducting a benefits workshop/claims clinic and outreach at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The workshop/claims clinic will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Veterans will also be meeting one-on-one with the benefit counselor from 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

Workshop topics include VA benefits, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation & employment, death benefits & education benefits. Counselors will be available to answer questions and assist with the claim process. ***(PR)***

COURTESY CALL CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from South Korea call on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday morning as part of an English language program. The students noted the tropical climate and the array of birds and plant life on the island. They gained insight into the CNMI's history and its native species.

Honda, Acura owners urged to have airbags repaired

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

BEA CABRERA
From left, Rob Stewart, Matt Deets, Calvin DLG Yamagishi, Bert Gonzalez, Wayne Waszkiewicz, and Rafael Loya show the sufficient airbag inflator supply on island.

People who own Honda and Acura vehicles that are 2001 models or newer are being encouraged to have their vehicles' airbags repaired to prevent injuries and ultimately to save lives.

The U.S. government has, according to an Associated Press story, set a Dec. 31, 2017 deadline to finish the recalls, most of which began in mid-2015, and the local dealer of Honda and Acura vehicles, Joeten Motors Corp., will be hosting a three-day outreach starting today to do the free airbag repairs.

Honda and Acura repair technicians will be conducting a free airbag repairs on Aug. 10, 11, and 12, 2017, from 8am to 5pm at the Joeten Motors showroom on Beach Road. Appointment is not needed and the free airbag repair will continue even after these events.

"We fix you car while you wait and enjoy the snacks prepared," said Joeten Motors service manager Calvin DLG Yamagashi.

Actual work time is probably 30 minutes to 45 minutes.

"This is 100-percent free and we are not trying to sell anybody anything. We are just here to fix airbag inflators and keep your cars safe," Yamagashi added.

Factory-trained technicians will be here to implement the repairs.

Honda parts and service manager Wayne Waszkiewicz said: "We try to improve the repair rate and market it on the island so that all these people who owns these units will bring them in [and] get them fixed because their lives are in jeopardy."

Waszkiewicz said that Honda and Acura have done similar events in other countries. "We find that we can get 80 to 150 repairs done in a day. If we could get over a 100 a day on island, that will be awesome."

These free repair events come in the wake of a massive worldwide recall on defective Takata airbag inflators that can hurl shrapnel at drivers and passengers involved in a crash. At least 18 deaths have been reported worldwide, including 12 in the U.S., that are being blamed on defective Takata inflators.

Waszkiewicz said the Takata issue affects almost all car manufacturers and not just Honda. "It affected Honda most because we used a lot of Takata airbags."

The defect is in the manufacturing design of the actual airbag inflator itself. Over time and especially in a hot and humid environment like of Saipan's, the propellant inside the inflator can break down.

"Once you get into an accident and the sensors fire the airbag after a crash, the pressure rises and spikes way higher than normal and that actually explodes the housing that contains that propellant. That housing is made up of stainless steel and can actually spray shrapnel toward the vehicle occupants," Waszkiewicz said.

"That is why we want to keep the customer safe. We cannot overemphasize the importance of getting the vehicles affected checked and repaired," he added.

There are about 450 Honda vehicles on island that are affected and are waiting to be repaired.

Waszkiewicz said these 450 vehicles need to be fixed. "But there are 55 ultra-critical units that needs to be replaced. We call those alpha vehicles. They are ultra-critical because the failure rate of those is 50 percent. If somebody who owned one of these vehicle were to get in an accident, 50 percent of the [airbags] will actually explode and spray metal fragments toward the occupants of the car. That is how serious this is."

PROMO ...PROMO ...PROMO

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Apple iPhone 6s plus 128GB UNLOCKED	$600
Apple iPhone 6s plus 64GB UNLOCKED	$550
Apple iPhone 6s plus 16GB UNLOCKED	$500
Apple iPhone 6s 128GB UNLOCKED	$550
Apple iPhone 6s 64GB UNLOCKED	$500
Apple iPhone 6s 16GB UNLOCKED	$450
Apple iPhone 6 plus 128GB UNLOCKED	$500
Apple iPhone 6 Plus 64GB UNLOCKED	$450
Apple iPhone 6 Plus 16GB UNLOCKED	$400
Apple iPhone 6 128GB UNLOCKED	$450
Apple iPhone 6 64GB UNLOCKED	$400
Apple iPhone 6 16GB UNLOCKED	$350
Apple iPhone 5s 64GB UNLOCKED	$250
Apple iPhone 5s 32GB UNLOCKED	$220
Apple iPhone 5s 16GB UNLOCKED	$200

SAMSUNG PHONES:

Samsung Galaxy S8 Plus cost	$800
Samsung Galaxy S8 cost	$700
Samsung Galaxy Note 7 cost	$600
Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge cost	$550
Samsung Galaxy S7 cost	$500

PAYMENT: LARGE ORDER PAYPAL AND CREDIT CARD, 1 TO 10 UNITS CASH PAYMENT

Contact us For Order Place via Email Address in below manners:
Rosemary Bruce | E-mail:ordernow2017@gmail.com | E-mail: centurionconsultllc@accountant.com | SKYPE ID :ordernow2017@outlook.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 158

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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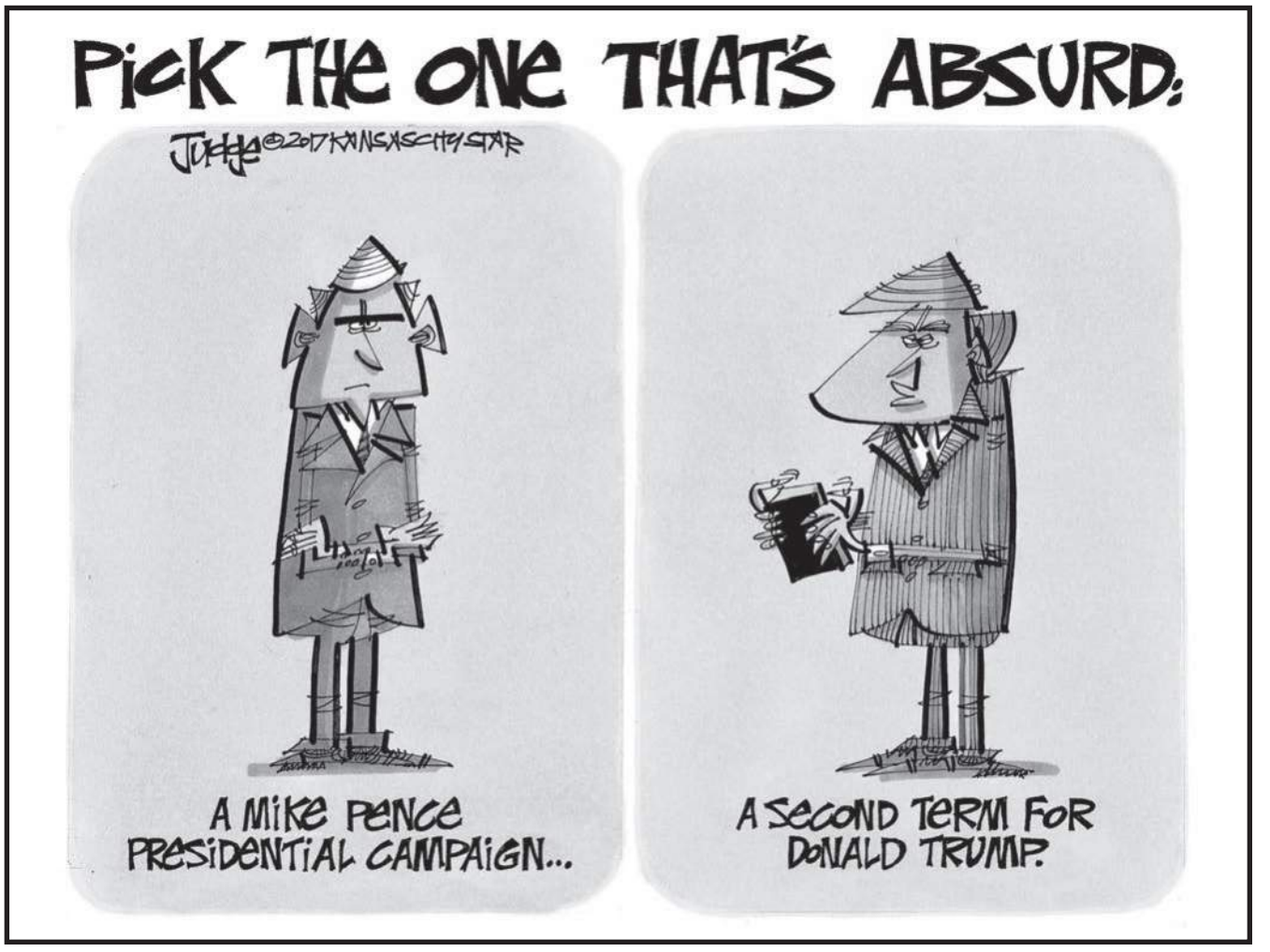

EDITORIAL

An alarming North Korea report and an explosive exchange

Many Americans had reassured themselves that North Korea was still years away from threatening the U.S. mainland with a nuclear missile.

That illusion ended Tuesday.

North Korea now has produced a miniaturized nuclear warhead that can fit inside intercontinental ballistic missiles, U.S. intelligence officials have concluded in a confidential assessment, according to *The Washington Post*. U.S. intelligence now estimates North Korea's arsenal has up to 60 nuclear weapons.

If all of that is true, North Korea is no longer a gadfly country ruled by a maniacal dictator with a small arsenal of nuclear weapons that cannot be delivered long distances. It is a developing threat to the U.S., to the world. If the analysts are right, North Korea is a belligerent, nuclear foe the U.S. must confront diplomatically, and in a worst-case scenario, militarily.

North Korea and President Donald Trump have dialed up the incendiary rhetoric. North Korea's news service said earlier this week, "There is no bigger mistake than the United States believing that its land is safe across the ocean." It threatened retaliation for new sanctions "thousands of times" over.

Trump responded Tuesday with his own harsh words. If North Korea continues to threaten the U.S. "they will be met with fire, fury and frankly power, the likes of which this world has never seen before," Trump said.

This is a crisis that has been decades in the making, dating back to the 1950-53 Korean War that ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. North and South Korea remain split. Technically, the U.S. and North Korea are still in a state of war. Over time, tensions rose and receded. For years, the U.S. tried to negotiate a halt to North Korea's nuclear program, but those deals inevitably collapsed.

The big questions: What does North Korea want, and is it willing to risk nuclear war?

For years answering that question was complicated by the secrecy that surrounds Pyongyang. North Korea is one of the most isolated nations on Earth, and it wasn't clear whether the previous leader, Kim Jong Il, was crazy like a fox or a real madman. It's clearer now under his son, Kim Jong Un, that North Korea does have a strategy _ to bully the world into respecting and fearing his government.

The paramount goal of the current Kim is the same one his father had: to guarantee the survival of the regime. A nuclear North Korea, capable of striking the United States as well as its allies South Korea and Japan, will keep enemies at bay and perhaps attain what the government really wants: to push the U.S. military out of South Korea and reunify the Korean Peninsula. The other favorable outcome for Pyongyang would be to negotiate a deal with the U.S. to provide North Korea security guarantees and financial aid.

A crisis can lead to a climax, which isn't necessarily bad. The new information about the North's weaponry, and this week's bellicose exchange, should alarm China, Russia and other governments. We hope that leads to the talks that reverse these escalating tensions.

(c)2017 Chicago Tribune

Immigration measure seeks to reshape diverse America

By FABIOLA SANTIAGO
Miami Herald

Fabiola Santiago is a columnist for the Miami Herald. *Readers may email her at fsantiago@miamiherald.com.*

Under President Donald Trump's immigration bill, today's Miami wouldn't exist. A vibrant metropolis heralded as a showcase for what refugees and immigrants from all over the Americas can achieve isn't good enough for his idyllic USA (with an exclamation point).

In fact, the president's idea of reform closes the door to people like his Cuban-American supporters, the ones who voted for Trump and proudly tout that they arrived penniless, not speaking much English, and through hard work and sacrifice achieved the American Dream.

Likewise for Trump's other Latino and Haitian supporters, fewer in numbers but just as adamant in their endorsement of a president whose white-supremacist, anti-immigrant agenda continues to be a slap in the face to multi-hued America and an affront to the founding values of this nation.

But what else can we expect from an administration that is separating American children from their parents, deporting young people who've lived in this country most of their lives and launching a voter suppression initiative that clearly targets minorities?

The Raise Act would cut legal immigration by half over the next 10 years, close the door to people who don't speak English upon arrival and prioritize skills over family reunification, abandoning that sacrosanct and humanitarian tenet of U.S. immigration policy.

Might as well nix the Statue of Liberty, too, and return it to France.

Rather than "raise" anything, Trump's point-based plan seeks to reshape the racial and ethnic make-up of a demographically diverse country—and write a whole new narrative about who we are and what we stand for.

To recast his own words, he aims to Make America White Again—and monolingual. We've traveled the road from pounding a not-so-veiled supremacist campaign message to drafting and enacting supremacist policy in only eight months.

And who else could the president place at the forefront of pushing this kind of immigration policy but White House senior adviser Stephen Miller, whose dislike of Latinos dates to his California school years and has been well-documented?

Miller had a ball on Wednesday defending the Raise Act before reporters, his body language exuding pompous fight and false indignation.

We all need to get over the "your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" message, he suggested. According to Miller, the Statue of Liberty has little to do with immigrants. It's only a "symbol of American liberty lighting the world," he said, and "The New Colossus" poem written by Emma Lazarus is not part of the original installation.

So there you have it: the rewrite of identity, the talking-point to justify the unjustifiable from the same people who brought you the rants against Mexican immigrants and the vow to raise a border wall—not along white, English and French-speaking Canada, but shutting out brown and Spanish-speaking Mexicans.

Which brings us to the English-only part of the bill. I had no idea that my beloved English language needed urgent, extinct-status preservation. The requirement is only indicative of motive. Trump and his cohorts are catering to Americans who carry a chip on their shoulder for being monolingual. They feel threatened by others' abilities. They lack curiosity about the vastness and diversity of the real world and find it a necessary coping skill to cling to a nativist narrative like toddlers to a security blanket.

Miller is the poster child for such an American. It's only fitting that a president who prefers shopping for trophy wives in Eastern Europe has put immigration policy in the hands of this petulant man-child. A visit to a good shrink can address those resentments and discomforts with better prospects of success.

Americans don't live in a cocoon safely tucked between majestic mountains and oceans with white foam. In a global economy and hyper-connected world, where the international is local, multilingual people are an economic asset to this country, not to mention to its security.

One of the myths xenophobes like to propagate is that immigrants aren't willing to learn English. But the only reason they don't do so fast enough to please the natives is the same one that keeps Americans from learning another language as is expected in other developed countries: long work hours and obligations.

Far from restoring our competitive edge in the 21st century, as Trump sells this measure, it puts in question America's place in the world. Internally, it fosters divisions, creating a new class of citizen who feels disenfranchised and unwanted.

One thing is certain: This bill seals Trump's status as the anti-immigrant president.

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7 food safety steps for successful community meals

By MICHAEL J. CYGANEK
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This week, the Office of the Attorney General's "Consumer Caution Corner" outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's seven food safety steps for successful community meals.

Whether preparing food for a family reunion or a community gathering, people who are great cooks at home do not necessarily know how to safely prepare and store large quantities of food for large groups. Food that is mishandled can cause foodborne illness. However, by following some simple steps, volunteer cooks can make the event safe and successful!

1. Plan Ahead — Make sure the location meets your needs.

■ Be sure you have enough oven, stovetop, refrigerator, freezer, and work space.

■ Find out if there is a source of clean water. If not, bring water for preparation and cleaning.

2. Store & Prepare Food Safely.

■ Refrigerate or freeze perishable food within two hours of shopping or preparing; one hour when the temperature is above 90 °F.

■ Find separate preparation areas in the workspace for raw and cooked food.

■ Never place cooked food back on the same plate or cutting board that held raw food.

■ Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and work surfaces frequently with hot, soapy water.

■ Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food and after using the bathroom, changing diapers, or handling pets.

3. Cook Food to Safe Minimum Internal Temperatures — It is the only way to tell if harmful bacteria are destroyed!

■ Use a food thermometer to check the internal temperature of meat, poultry, casseroles, and other food. Check temperature in several places to be sure food is cooked to a safe minimum internal temperature.

■ Never partially cook food for finishing later because you increase the risk of bacterial growth.

4. Transport Food Safely — Keep hot food HOT. Keep cold food COLD.

■ Keep hot food at or above 140 °F. Wrap well and place in an insulated container.

■ Keep cold food at or below 40 °F. Place in a cooler with a cold source such as ice or frozen gel packs.

5. Need to Reheat? Food must be hot and steamy for serving. Just "warmed up" is not good enough.

■ Use the stove, oven, or microwave to reheat food to 165 °F. Bring sauces, soups, and gravies to a boil.

6. Keep Food Out of the "Danger Zone" (40-140 °F).

■ Keep hot food hot—at or above 140 °F. Place cooked food in chafing dishes, preheated steam tables, warming trays, and/or slow cookers.

■ Keep cold food cold — at or below 40 °F. Place food in containers on ice.

7. When In Doubt, Throw it Out!

■ Discard food left out at room temperature for more than two hours; one hour when the temperature is above 90 °F.

■ Place leftovers in shallow containers. Refrigerate or freeze immediately.

Be Food Safe! Prepare with Care.

■ CLEAN. Wash hands, utensils, and surfaces often.

■ SEPARATE. Do not cross-contaminate.

■ COOK. Use a food thermometer.

■ CHILL. Chill food promptly.

For additional food safety information, visit BeFoodSafe.gov and AskKaren.gov or call the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854).

Each week, the OAG's Consumer Protection Education Program (a.k.a. "The Consumer Caution Corner") shares Federal Trade Commission, Federal Communications Commission or USDA publications to promote education and awareness among the community while also enabling consumers and businesses with the "know-how" to identify and protect themselves from unfair and deceptive trade practices and other marketplace schemes.

If you would like to file a consumer complaint, pick up a form at the OAG (on Capital Hill) or request a form by email from consumer_counsel@cnmioag.org. After completing the consumer complaint form, submit it by email or in-person.

We cannot act as your private attorney. If you need legal assistance, we will recommend that you contact a private attorney or legal aid organization. We cannot give legal advice or act as your private attorney.

Michael J. Cyganek is consumer counsel of the CNMI Office of the Attorney General.

North Korea problems won't be solved on land

By JAMES STAVRIDIS
Bloomberg View

James Stavridis, a retired U.S. Navy admiral and former military commander of NATO, is dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. His most recent book is Sea Power: The History and Geopolitics of the World's Oceans.

As the world worries about the increasing threat from North Korea and its dangerous leader Kim Jong Un, there is a temptation to believe that the problems will be solved ashore. Newly installed president Moon Jae In of South Korea is exploring a return to the so-called sunshine policy of dealing openly with the North while using trade and engagement incentives to defuse the situation. The U.S. wants to deploy a new ground-based missile-defense system to protect troops at the demilitarized zone as well as Japan and Guam. China is increasing its control over the notoriously leaky border, moving military units closer to North Korea and preparing for a potential refugee crisis if conflict erupts.

All of these are prudent moves, but it is well worth remembering that Korea is a long peninsula, with approaches dominated by the sea. So it was perhaps not surprising that China and Russia are pushing vigorously to stop the robust program of at-sea exercises the U.S. undertakes with allies in the region as a precondition for talks with North Korea. While canceling some practice drills off the Korean coast may seem like no big deal, doing so would be one of the worst mistakes the U.S. could make, in terms of security and diplomacy.

It is important to understand just how vital it is to train and exercise at sea, in the demanding maritime environment itself, if we are to be prepared to operate effectively in a crisis. Sailors and their ships effectively rust in port, and the complexity of preparing for large-scale activities on the oceans demands weeks of training individually for each ship, followed by weeks of working together.

The recent collision of U.S. destroyer Fitzgerald with a container ship off the coast of Japan—a single ship, operating alone – reminds us how inherently difficult it is to operate on the high seas. Our Navy ships typically train for over a year in U.S. waters before deploying forward. Working with other navies—given language, cultural and operational differences—adds another layer of difficulty. Facing North Korea at sea is a team sport, and we have to practice like any team if we are going to be effective.

In terms of actual operations, there are five key maritime tasks ahead of the U.S. military. First, as the Trump administration seeks to control escalation and find a way for diplomacy to succeed, we need to gather intelligence effectively and conduct surveillance, especially of the North Korean nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile programs.

That work can best be done from international waters by the U.S. Navy's stealthy submarines and Arleigh Burke-class destroyers equipped with Aegis combat systems. These multi-mission destroyers have superb intelligence-gathering capability, and also boast the world's most effective air-surveillance radar, the SPY-1, which can track even the smallest and fastest targets hundreds of miles away. The Navy has many of these ships at port in Yokosuka, Japan, as well as in all aircraft carrier strike groups that operate in the region.

Second, sea power is also vital for enforcing of sanctions against North Korea, including those passed unanimously last week by the United Nations Security Council. Over 90 percent of non-Chinese trade for North Korea moves across the oceans, and our ability to stop it matters deeply. This means not just cutting off incoming technical materials, foodstuffs and consumer goods, but also stopping goods leaving the country. The Kim regime is able to obtain hard cash by selling weapons and technology to countries and organizations including Iran, Hezbollah and Syria, as well as raw materials and seafood.

Another crucial element of deterrence is ballistic-missile defense. The ability to use sea-based platforms—the Aegis-equipped destroyers and the comparable Ticonderoga-class cruisers—in the waters off the southern portion of the peninsula is central to neutralizing North Korea's long-range missiles. Coupled with the land-based system known as Thaad in an integrated air-defense network, these maritime systems can significantly reduce the power and lethality of the North Korean threat.

And while the U.S. can do much alone, it also needs to cooperate with allies, particularly our principal Asian partners, Japan and Australia. Japan, of course, faces a very specific series of threats—from Kim's bellicose rhetoric to his propensity to launch test missiles in that direction. The Japanese, who operate the Aegis combat system on their Kongo-class destroyers, have the most capable navy in Asia after the U.S. and China. New Zealand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and other partners are also part of the coalition approach to stopping North Korea.

Finally, if we do end up applying "hard power" in either a massive or a precise set of preemptive strikes—a very bad option, but certainly a possibility—many will come from the sea. A strike force consisting of up to three carrier groups would bring together hundreds of tactical strike aircraft, as well as hundreds of Tomahawk cruise missiles. Supplemented by long-range Air Force assets, this armada would be crucial in striking the North Korean leadership and nuclear program. Given the ships' ability to move nearly a thousand miles daily, it could operate on both sides of the Korea peninsula—out of range of effective North Korean counters-measures—and continue to pummel the regime.

One final consideration may seem counterintuitive, but is worth considering—doing some level of exercises with China itself. These would best focus on "benign" operations such as training in disaster relief, medical diplomacy, humanitarian projects, narcotics interdiction and the like. While not operationally significant, such exercises would help build confidence in terms of being able to communicate rapidly with the Chinese navy in times of crisis.

Given all the maritime capability that is needed in dealing with North Korea, it is clear that the U.S. must exercise on the high seas and practice all the scenarios outlined above. We need to do this in concert with our allies, honing our interoperability in ways that demonstrate to North Korea the overwhelming level of firepower they are facing. These exercises cannot be a bargaining chip in multilateral negotiations.

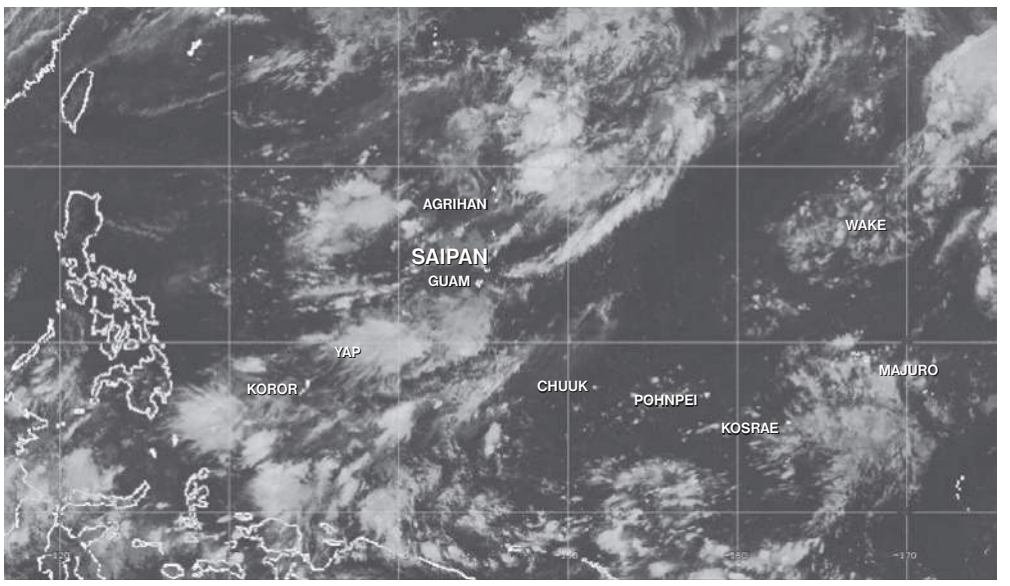
While Kim likes to maintain an air of bravado, he is not irrational—he knows open combat means the end of his nation and his family. Making clear to him the military threat he faces from the sea will help us prepare for the worst and, more important, perhaps help coax him to a negotiated conclusion to a situation that has the entire world on edge.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy. Isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Latest satellite data shows isolated showers over the Marianas. A few thunderstorms have occurred this morning, mainly over Guam and Guam waters. Most of the convection is now outside of Guam waters and will continue to drift south-southwestward. Weak convergence will remain over the Marianas through tonight, maintaining the possibility of isolated thunderstorms through early Thursday morning. A more settled pattern is then expected for the remainder of the week. A surface trough currently south of Wake Island will approach the islands Saturday and may bring a few thunderstorms to the area over the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	59° / 52°
Beijing	Thunderstorms	91° / 73°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 84°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
London	Mostly Cloudy	68° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 68°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	57° / 48°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
New York	Partly Cloudy	83° / 68°
Osaka	Showers	91° / 77°
Paris	Thunderstorms	68° / 54°
Busan	Thunderstorms	84° / 75°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	93° / 75°
Salem	Thunderstorms	87° / 72°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	64° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	88° / 73°
Tokyo	Cloudy	86° / 75°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	83° / 69°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:30 AM	LOW TIDE	0.90
8:39 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.86
3:35 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.07
10:07 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.94

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM
Monday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:52 AM	8:33 PM
Friday	-	8:44 AM	9:16 PM
Saturday	-	9:37 AM	9:59 PM
Sunday	-	10:31 AM	10:44 PM
Monday	-	11:27 AM	11:30 PM

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
ZE584	4:00pm	8:05pm	1, 3, 5
ZE584	4:35pm	8:15pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

ZE583	9:10am	2:40pm	1, 3, 5
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE583	10:05am	3:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

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SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Trump visits putting big dent in small airports' business

READINGTON TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP)—Thor Solberg's business is down—try practically nonexistent—at a time when it's usually way up, and he has President Donald Trump to thank for it.

Solberg's is one of two small airports in western New Jersey that are essentially closed down because of federal aviation regulations because they are within 10 miles (16 kilometers) of where Trump is spending 17 days this month at his Bedminster country club. More than a dozen other airports also face restrictions.

This is high season for small airports that cater to amateur fliers and business clients. But at Solberg-Hunterdon Airport, which averages about 100 combined takeoffs and landings per day, a handful of planes sat idle Monday. Normally 70 to 80 planes would be paying to be housed there and paying for fuel and flight training time, Solberg said.

AP
In this Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 photo, a plane is parked at the side of the idle runway at Solberg-Hunterdon Airport in Whitehouse Station, N.J. Airports located near President Donald Trump's golf course like this one in New Jersey have essentially been shut down during his visit, and that means lost business and money.

"Twenty percent of our annual business is affected by the president's visits in the summertime because that's how much of our business takes place on the weekends in the summertime," Solberg said.

Small airports and aviation-related businesses near Trump's properties in Florida and New Jersey have lost out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in business already this year. And they have no recourse other than to appeal to the Secret Service, which oversees presidential security.

That proved unsuccessful for the owners of a small Florida airport that lies within the no-fly zone near Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort. In March, the Secret Service told the tenants of Lantana Airport that aircraft couldn't take off from the facility, which is about 6 miles (10 kilometers) southwest of Mar-a-Lago. The 28 businesses at the airport include a flight school and banner operation. They said they were losing thousands of dollars each time Trump visited.

Jonathan Miller, the contractor who operates the airport, told The Associated Press earlier this year that a helicopter company opted to move elsewhere rather than deal with the airport closures, taking an estimated $440,000 in annual rent and fuel payments with it.

Michelle Edwards, office manager at Palm Beach Flight Training at Lantana, said it was especially stressful in the spring when Trump's visits closed the airport for three straight weekends, usually with about two days' notice.

"We have customers, their first question when they call is, 'Am I even going to be able to train there because of President Trump coming down so much?'" Edwards said. "So, we have customers leaving, going elsewhere and not even starting with us because they're nervous about President Trump coming in."

Fired Google engineer files complaint, weighs legal options

MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP)—A 28-year-old former Google engineer who was fired over a memo he wrote about gender differences said Tuesday he's exploring all his legal options and has already filed a labor complaint over his treatment.

James Damore, whose memo over the weekend caused an uproar online, said in an email that he was terminated late Monday for "perpetuating gender stereotypes." He said that prior to being fired he had filed a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board and that "it's illegal to retaliate against a NLRB charge."

A filing by Damore with the board Monday alleged he was subjected to "coercive statements" while at Google.

A Google spokesperson said Tuesday that the company could not have retaliated because it was unaware of his labor complaint until reading about it in the media after his dismissal. As of Tuesday afternoon, the company said it had not been sent notice of the complaint by the board.

The board declined to comment.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai on Monday said in an email to employees that, while he supports free expression by company workers, Damore's memo crossed the line of the company's code of conduct "by advancing harmful gender stereotypes in our workplace." Pichai added that he was cutting short a family vacation overseas to address staff in a town hall Thursday.

"To suggest a group of our colleagues have traits that make them less biologically suited to that work is offensive and not OK," Pichai wrote.

The engineer's widely shared memo , titled "Google's Ideological Echo Chamber," criticized Google for pushing mentoring and diversity programs and for "alienating conservatives."

Google's just-hired head of diversity, Danielle Brown, responded earlier with her own memo, saying that Google is "unequivocal in our belief that diversity and inclusion are critical to our success." She said change is hard and "often uncomfortable."

American flight underscores hazards posed by turbulence

DALLAS (AP)—At some point during many flights, the captain will calmly announce that there could be some bumps ahead and so passengers must be seated with their seat belts on.

The plane might seem to bobble or bounce a bit, but rarely does it turn into a serious threat to safety. That, however, is just what happened to an American Airlines flight last weekend, when 10 people were injured as the plane plowed through turbulence on its way to landing in Philadelphia.

A rundown of statistics, recent incidents, and what pilots and airlines do to avoid hitting potholes in the sky:

THE NUMBERS

About 40 people a year are seriously injured by turbulence in the U.S., according to Federal Aviation Administration figures from the last 10 years. The FAA counted 44 injuries last year, the most since more than 100 were hurt in 2009.

But the official count is almost certainly too low.

The National Transportation Safety Board requires airlines to report incidents that result in serious injury or death, and FAA uses those reports to tally the number of people hurt by turbulence. But airlines are not required to report injuries unless they require a 48-hour hospital stay or involve certain specific injuries such as major broken bones, burns or organ damage.

Saturday's American Airlines flight to Philadelphia likely won't meet those standards—the injured people were released from the hospital within a few hours and didn't suffer the types of injuries that trigger a report to the federal safety board.

RECENT FLIGHTS

The American Airlines flight from Athens hit severe turbulence over the New York coastline. Seven crew members and three passengers among the 299 people on board were taken to a hospital for treatment. American Airlines spokesman Ross Feinstein said the seat-belt sign was on but none of the injured people were buckled in.

Feinstein said the plane was inspected and suffered no damage. After the interior was cleaned up—coffee and other drinks went flying, even splashing the ceiling—the plane was put back in service Monday, he said.

It was the latest in a string of scary turbulence incidents.

■ In June, 10 people on a United Airlines flight from Panama City to Houston were injured when their plane was shaken over the Gulf of Mexico.

■ In May, more than two dozen passengers suffered injuries including broken bones when they were tossed around the cabin of an Aeroflot plane headed from Moscow to Bangkok.

■ More than 20 people were injured in August 2016 when a JetBlue plane ran into turbulence in a line of thunderstorms over South Dakota and had to make an emergency landing.

RATING TURBULENCE

Turbulence is classified as light, moderate, severe or extreme. The first two might be frightening to some passengers, but it is only the latter two that are dangerous, especially for passengers and crew who aren't buckled in.

Most people associate turbulence with heavy storms. The most dangerous type, however, is so-called clear-air turbulence—a wind-shear phenomenon that can occur in wispy cirrus clouds or even clear air near thunderstorms, as differences in temperature and pressure create powerful currents of fast-moving air.

Planes can sail into clear-air turbulence without warning, as appeared to happen to the American Airlines flight.

TECHNOLOGY, TERRAIN AND THE EYE TEST

Airlines rely on meteorologists to predict the location and intensity of bad weather, and dispatchers on the ground give updates to pilots during a flight.

Pilots are on notice anytime a flight goes over a mountain range or through certain kinds of weather fronts.

Modern airliners are equipped with sophisticated weather-radar technology, yet often "it's as simple as looking out the window," says Patrick Smith, an airline pilot and author of "Ask the Pilot." Indicators such as thunder clouds with an anvil-shaped top usually mean the ride is about to get bumpy. But the most helpful tool, he says, is reports from other pilots in the area.

PILOTS REACT

Pilots have a few techniques for getting through turbulence safely. They can slow down to what is called turbulence-penetration speed—fast enough to avoid a stall, but not so fast that they risk damaging the plane. They can ask air traffic controllers to let them move to a lower or higher altitude or go around troublesome clouds, but those requests can't always be honored.

"If you feel the plane climbing or descending midflight, (there is a) good chance it's because of a report from fellow pilots up ahead," Smith says.

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DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
22,085.34	2,474.92	6,370.46
-33.08	-5.99	-13.31
-0.15%	-0.24%	-0.21%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.2688	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8140	Russian Ruble	59.8173
British Pound	0.7701	Indian Rupee	63.2592	Singapore Dollar	1.3633
Canadian Dollar	1.2691	Japanese Yen	110.02	South Korean Won	1,109
Chinese Yuan	6.5694	Malaysian Ringgit	4.2377	Swiss Franc	0.9685
Euro	0.8516	New Zealand Dollar	1.3660	Taiwan Dollar	29.6298
		Philippine Peso	49.6025	Thailand Baht	33.2175

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Nation

Could voting fraud panel create an easy target for hackers?

CHERRY HILL, N.J. (AP)—Officials from both parties had a consistent answer last year when asked about the security of voting systems: U.S. elections are so decentralized that it would be impossible for hackers to manipulate ballot counts or voter rolls on a wide scale.

But the voter fraud commission established by President Donald Trump could take away that one bit of security.

The commission has requested information on voters from every state and recently won a federal court challenge to push ahead with the collection, keeping it in one place.

By compiling a national list of registered voters, the federal government could provide one-stop shopping for hackers and hostile foreign governments seeking to wreak havoc with elections.

"Coordinating a national voter registration system located in the White House is akin to handing a zip drive to Russia," said Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, a Democrat who has refused to send data to the commission.

Trump appointed the commission, led by Vice President Mike Pence, to examine integrity of the voting system, including practices that "could lead to improper voter registrations and improper voting." The president has asserted repeatedly and without evidence that several million fraudulent votes were cast in last year's election. Voting experts say that there is not widespread election fraud in the U.S. But Russian meddling in the 2016 campaign, as well as Russian attempts to meddle with state election systems, has raised concerns about US election security.

AP

In this July 8, 2017 file photo, Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap speaks during a voter registration meeting at the National Association of Secretaries of State conference in Indianapolis.

In June, commission Vice Chairman Kris Kobach, the Republican secretary of state in Kansas, asked state election officials for information about registered voters. The request included details such as driver's license and partial Social Security numbers - if they're considered public in the states. Several officials interpreted the request as saying that all the data would be made available publicly; the commission has since said that individual voters' information would be kept private.

Thirteen states plus the District of Columbia say they won't hand over the information, according to a tally by The Associated Press. Those that are complying have said that not everything on the commission's checklist could be shared under their state laws. Social Security numbers are widely off limits; in several states, birthdates and political party registrations are, too.

The IRS, Social Security Administration, banks and internet companies, among other entities, have far more information about many citizens. Political parties and other organizations have access to some voter registration information - though that permission often comes with restrictions on how they can use it and how widely they can share it.

Still, security experts and fair election advocates say that any records stored on computers are susceptible to attacks.

"It's creating more security vulnerabilities in our election system that don't seem to be necessary," said Barbara Simons, president of Verified Voting, an organization that advocates for transparent, accurate and verifiable elections.

Still, Bruce Schneier, the chief technology officer at the online security firm IBM Resilient, said hacking into a federal database can't affect voters' information in their home states. He said having a copy of data that's already on a federal hard drive "doesn't make it that much worse, assuming the federal government isn't idiotic about it."

A massive database of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management was hacked in 2015, compromising the personnel records of millions of federal employees as well as the security clearance information for many of them, which included personal information about their friends and relatives. The hack compromised the information of up to 21 million people. U.S. officials have said there were attempts by Russians to hack into election systems in 21 states. The FBI has confirmed intrusions into voter registration databases in Arizona and Illinois.

Louisiana Secretary of State Tom Schedler, a Republican, said last month that "the release of private information creates a tremendous breach of trust with voters who work hard to protect themselves against identity fraud."

Experts: Lives at risk if no sleep tests for train engineers

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and MICHAEL R. SISAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. officials are abandoning plans to require sleep apnea screening for truck drivers and train engineers, a decision that safety experts say puts millions of lives at risk.

The Federal Railroad Administration and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration said late last week that they are no longer pursuing the regulation that would require testing for the fatigue-inducing disorder that has been blamed for deadly rail crashes in New York City and New Jersey and several highway crashes.

The agencies argue that it should be up to railroads and trucking companies to decide whether to test employees. One railroad that does test, Metro-North in the New York City suburbs, found that 11.6 percent of its engineers have sleep apnea.

The decision to kill the sleep apnea regulation is the latest step in President Donald Trump's campaign to drastically slash federal regulations. The Trump administration has withdrawn or delayed hundreds of proposed regulations since he took office in January—moves the Republican president has said will help bolster economic growth.

Late last year, the FRA issued a safety advisory that was meant as a stopgap measure urging railroads to begin sleep apnea testing while the rules made their way through the regulatory process. Without a regulation mandating testing, which would have needed approval from Congress, regulators couldn't cite trucking companies or railroads if a truck or train crashed because the operator fell asleep at the helm.

Sleep apnea is especially troubling for the transportation industry because sufferers are repeatedly awakened and robbed of rest as their airway closes and their breathing stops, leading to dangerous daytime drowsiness. Treatments include wearing a pressurized breathing mask, oral appliances or nasal strips to force the airway open while sleeping. Severe cases require surgery.

"It's very hard to argue that people aren't being put at risk," said Sarah Feinberg, the former administrator of the FRA, who had issued the safety advisory in December. "We cannot have someone who is in that condition operating either a train going 70 mph or operating a multi-ton truck traveling down the interstate. It's just not an appropriate level of risk to be exposing passengers and the traveling public to."

The National Transportation Safety Board said it was disappointed the agencies decided to scrap the "much-needed rulemaking."

"Obstructive sleep apnea has been in the probable cause of 10 highway and rail accidents investigated by the NTSB in the past 17 years and obstructive sleep apnea is an issue being examined in several, ongoing, NTSB rail and highway investigations," NTSB spokesman Christopher O'Neil said.

First medical marijuana dispensary opening in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP)—Dispensary sales of medical marijuana in Hawaii are beginning after patients waited 17 years for a legal way to purchase the drug.

Maui Grown Therapies received approval from the Department of Health to begin selling medical cannabis Tuesday.

The dispensary sold medical marijuana to patients for two hours Tuesday, limiting their hours to help manage the new process, said Teri Freitas Gorman, director of community relations and patient affairs.

"Clearly this is a historic day not just for Maui but for the state of Hawaii," Freitas Gorman said. "This is the first time in Hawaii that patients will be able to buy lab-tested, quality-assured medical cannabis from a state-licensed dispensary. We're so excited."

The Maui dispensary preregistered patients and began selling medical cannabis to patients by appointment only. They made 22 transactions and there were some software glitches, but patients were very excited, Freitas Gorman said. Marijuana was sold for $20 per gram and $90 to $125 for a quarter-ounce, depending on the strain. Walk-in sales will start in about a week.

"This is an important day for qualified patients and caregivers on Maui who now have assurance the medical cannabis they purchase at Maui Grown Therapies has been thoroughly tested and is safe for them to use," said Virginia Pressler, director of the state Department of Health, in a statement. "Implementing a new health program is always challenging, and the dispensary program was no exception."

Hawaii was among the first states to legalize medical marijuana in 2000. But the state didn't legalize dispensaries until 2015, so the state's 18,000 patients had to grow or obtain the drug on their own.

Hawaii granted licenses to eight medical marijuana dispensaries throughout the Hawaiian islands last year. Several dispensaries began growing and harvesting the product, but they were unable to sell it because until recently the state had not certified a lab.

Honolulu-based dispensary Aloha Green was inspected Tuesday by the Department of Health and later announced it would open for sales Wednesday.

The dispensary says the price will include costs unique to Hawaii, including high electricity prices, lab testing, substantial taxes and a delay in sales for over a year.

Asia

Trump, North Korea trade escalating threats of fire

AP
In this July 28, 2017, file photo distributed by the North Korean government on Saturday, July 29, 2017, shows what was said to be the launch of a Hwasong-14 intercontinental ballistic missile at an undisclosed location in North Korea.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea and the United States traded escalating threats, with President Donald Trump threatening Pyongyang "with fire and fury like the world has never seen" and the North's military claiming Wednesday it was examining its plans for attacking Guam.

The comments follow reports that North Korea has mastered a crucial technology needed to strike the United States with a nuclear missile.

Despite regular North Korean threats against Guam, a U.S. territory in the Pacific about 2,100 miles (3,400 kilometers) from the Korean Peninsula, it is extremely unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a pre-emptive attack on U.S. citizens.

Still, the competing threats and Trump's use of North Korea-style rhetoric—Pyongyang has long vowed to reduce Seoul to a "sea of fire"—raise the already high animosity and heighten worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

The North Korean army said in a statement distributed by the state-run news agency that it is studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium—to long-range ballistic missiles. The statement described Andersen Air Force Base on Guam as a "beachhead" for a potential U.S. invasion of North Korea it needed to neutralize. It was unlikely the North's threat was a direct response to Trump's comments to the camera at his golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey.

South Korea's Unification Ministry, which deals with matters related to North Korea, said the North's army statement hurts efforts to improve inter-Korean relations. Ministry spokesman Baek Tai-hyun said Seoul remains committed to both dialogue and sanctions for solving the North Korean nuclear problem and called for Pyongyang to stop its provocations.

Trump spoke hours after reports were published that indicate North Korea can now wed nuclear warheads with its missiles, including its longest-range missiles that may be able to hit the American mainland. The North has strived for decades to have the ability to strike the U.S. and its Asian allies, and the pace of its breakthroughs is having far-reaching consequences for stability in the Pacific and beyond.

The nuclear advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment Tuesday and a later Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report. The U.S. now assesses the North Korean arsenal at up to 60 nuclear weapons, more than double most assessments by independent experts, according to the Post's reporting.

"North Korea had best not make any more threats to the United States," said a stern-looking Trump, seated with his arms crossed and with his wife beside him. "They will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen."

"He has been very threatening beyond a normal state. And as I said they will be met with fire, fury and frankly power the likes of which this world has never seen before." The remarks appeared scripted, with Trump glancing at a paper in front of him. They evoked President Harry Truman's announcement of the U.S. atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945, in which he warned of "a rain of ruin from the air, the like of which has never been seen on this earth."

But it wasn't clear what Trump, who is prone to hyperbole and bombast in far less grave situations, meant by the threat. White House officials did not elaborate.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer issued a statement afterward saying, "We need to be firm and deliberate with North Korea, but reckless rhetoric is not a strategy to keep America safe."

The Trump administration considers North Korea to be America's greatest national security threat and tensions have steadily escalated this year.

Pyongyang responded angrily to the U.N. Security Council's adoption this weekend of new, tougher sanctions spearheaded by Washington. The sanctions followed intercontinental ballistic missile tests last month, the second of which was estimating as having a range that could reach more of the U.S. mainland. The newly revealed U.S. intelligence assessment indicates those missiles can carry nuclear warheads.

Denouncing the U.N. sanctions through state media, the North warned: "We will make the U.S. pay by a thousandfold for all the heinous crimes it commits against the state and people of this country."

A-bomb anniversary in Nagasaki amid US-North Korea tension

TOKYO (AP)—Amid growing tension between Washington and North Korea, the mayor of Nagasaki said Tuesday that the fear of another nuclear bomb attack is growing at a ceremony marking the 72nd anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of his city.

Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue urged nuclear states to abandon such weapons and criticized Japan's government for not taking part in the global effort toward a nuclear ban.

The bombing anniversary comes just as Pyongyang and Washington are trading escalating threats. President Donald Trump threatened North Korea "with fire and fury" and North Korea's military said Wednesday it was examining its plans for attacking Guam.

"The international situation surrounding nuclear weapons is becoming increasingly tense," Taue said at Nagasaki's peace park. "A strong sense of anxiety is spreading across the globe that in the not too distant future these weapons could actually be used again."

The world's first atomic bomb, used on Aug. 6, 1945, killed 140,000 people in Hiroshima. The bombing of Nagasaki three days later killed 70,000 more.

At 11:02 a.m., when the bomb struck 72 years ago, people at the ceremony observed a moment of silence as the peace bell rang.

"The nuclear threat will not end as long as nations continue to claim that nuclear weapons are essential for their national security," Taue said.

Taue sharply criticized Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government for what he said were empty promises about working to achieve a nuclear-free world. He said Japan's absence even during diplomatic negotiations for the U.N. Nuclear Prohibition Treaty, adopted in July, is "incomprehensible to those of us living in the cities that suffered atomic bombings." The outspoken mayor praised the atomic bombing survivors, or "hibakusha," for their lifelong devotion to the effort. He urged Japan's government to change its policy of relying on the U.S. nuclear umbrella and join the nuclear prohibition treaty as soon as possible.

Abe, in a speech that was almost a repeat of what he said in Hiroshima, did not mention the U.N. nuclear ban treaty.

More than 175,000 hibakusha have died in Nagasaki since the attack, including 3,551 in the past year, while over 300,000 of their peers have died in Hiroshima. The average age of the survivors is more than 81 years. Many suffer from long lasting effects of radiation.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Landslide kills 23 in village in southwest China

BEIJING (AP)—A rain-triggered landslide hit a village in southwest China on Tuesday, killing 23 people and leaving two others missing, authorities said. Rescuers were able to pull one person out from the rubble in Gengdi village in Sichuan province, and four others had minor injuries, the provincial government's news office said in an online statement. It added that 71 houses were destroyed and a 5-kilometer (3-mile) stretch of road was damaged in the early morning landslide, which has caused an estimated 160 million yuan ($23.9 million) in direct economic losses.

Rescuers gather bodies in China earthquake that killed 13

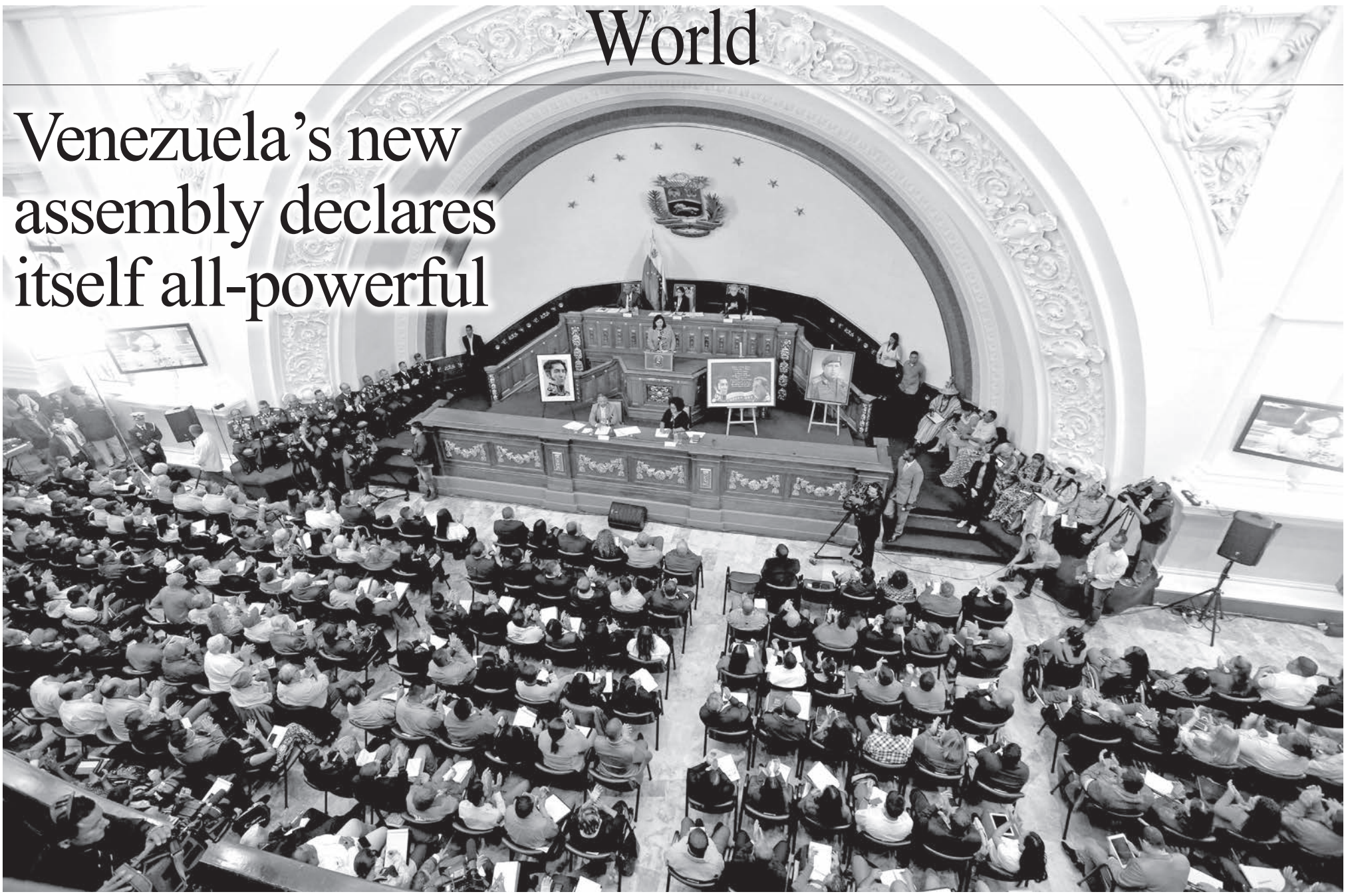
BEIJING (AP)—Rescuers picked away rubble from around a body in an area shaken by a powerful earthquake in mountainous western China, then stood silently in a row, with helmets off and heads bowed, to pay their respects. Tuesday night's quake in Sichuan province China killed at least 13 people and injured 175. It also knocked out power and phone networks, complicating efforts to find survivors. Chinese President Xi Jinping called for rapid efforts to respond to the disaster that struck a quake-prone region bordered by Sichuan and Gansu province. The area is populated largely by Tibetans and lies close to Jiuzhaigou, or Jiuzhai Valley, a national park known for spectacular waterfalls and karst formations that attracts visitors from China and overseas.

Thai journalist charged with sedition for online comments

BANGKOK (AP)—A prominent journalist in Thailand has been charged with sedition and violation of the country's computer law for online postings concerning politics. The lawyer for Pravit Rojanaphruk said his client acknowledged the charges Tuesday at the police department's Technology Crime Suppression Division. Pravit is very active on social media and outspoken in his criticism of Thailand's military rulers, who took power after a coup in 2014 that overthrew an elected civilian government. Pravit is a senior staff writer at Khaosod English, a website of a Thai newspaper. Police announced last week that they would bring sedition charges against him and two politicians, one a former energy minister. Sedition is punishable by up to seven years' imprisonment. Thailand's ruling junta has tried to clamp down on dissent, targeting especially social media.

World

Venezuela's new assembly declares itself all-powerful



Constitutional Assembly delegate Carmen Melendez speaks from the podium during a session in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. AP

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The new constitutional assembly assumed even more power in Venezuela by declaring itself as the superior body to all other governmental institutions, including the opposition-controlled congress.

That decree came Tuesday just hours after the assembly delegates took control of a legislative chamber and put up pictures of the late President Hugo Chavez, who installed Venezuela's socialist system.

Delcy Rodriguez, the head of the ruling socialist party and leader of the body, said the unanimously approved decree prohibits lawmakers in congress from taking any action that would interfere with laws passed by the newly installed constitutional assembly.

"We are not threatening anyone," said Aristobulo Isturiz, the constitutional assembly's first vice president. "We are looking for ways to coexist."

Leaders of congress, which previously voted not to recognize any of the new superbody's decrees, said lawmakers would try to meet in the gold-domed legislative palace Wednesday, but there were questions whether security officers guarding the building would let them in.

The opposition to President Nicolas Maduro also faced another fight Wednesday before the government-stacked Supreme Court, which scheduled a hearing on charges against a Caracas-area opposition mayor. The judges convicted another mayor Tuesday for failing to move against protesters during four months of political unrest.

In calling the July 30 election for the constitutional assembly, Maduro said a new constitution would help resolve the nation's political standoff, but opposition leaders view it is a power grab and the president's allies have said they will go after his opponents. Before its decree declaring itself all-powerful, the assembly ousted Venezuela's outspoken chief prosecutor, established a "truth commission" expected to target Maduro's foes and pledged "support and solidarity" with the unpopular president.

The latest surge of protests began in early April in reaction to a quickly rescinded attempt by the government-supporting Supreme Court to strip the National Assembly of its powers. But the unrest ballooned into a widespread movement fed by anger over Venezuela's triple-digest inflation, shortages of food and medicine, and high crime.

Opposition lawmakers said security forces led by Rodriguez broke into the congress building late Monday and seized control of an unused, ceremonial chamber almost identical to the one where lawmakers meet.

"This government invades the spaces that it is not capable of legitimately winning," Stalin Gonzalez, an opposition lawmaker, wrote on Twitter, alluding to the opposition's overwhelming victory in the 2015 congressional elections.

Kenya opposition disputes vote count showing president ahead

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta on Wednesday led challenger Raila Odinga by a significant margin in partial election results, but the opposition said the counting process was flawed and disputed the tally.

The website of Kenya's election commission showed Kenyatta with just over 55 percent and opposition leader Odinga with nearly 44 percent after votes were counted from more than two-thirds of the 40,833 polling stations. However, the commission did not release information about which constituencies had been counted, so it was unclear whether Kenyatta strongholds or opposition centers, or some combination, had yet to be tallied from Tuesday's vote.

That prompted sharp criticism from Odinga, who also ran against Kenyatta in the 2013 vote and unsuccessfully challenged the results in court with allegations of vote-tampering. The longtime opposition figure also ran in the 2007 vote, which was followed by violence fueled by ethnic divisions that killed more than 1,000 people.

"A clean credible process would by now have a dashboard showing all tallies from all constituencies to add to a sum total so that country can know which part of the country has been counted and what the votes are," Odinga said in a statement Wednesday.

"The system has failed," Odinga said. He added that the election commission "has just said that no parties have disputed the results. How do parties dispute results which they do not even know their origins?"

WORLD BRIEFS

Bahrain, UAE open up airspace for Qatar Airways

MONTREAL (AP)—The world aviation agency says Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates have agreed to open up some of their airspace to Qatar's state-owned airline after it was hit with flight restrictions earlier this summer in a diplomatic dispute. A spokesman for the Montreal-based International Civil Aviation Organization said Tuesday that the flight corridors include existing as well as new "temporary or contingency" routes for Qatar Airways. Spokesman Anthony Philbin says that since June 5, the aviation organization has been working with various countries in the Middle East to work out access to airspace for Qatar-registered aircraft. Bahrain, the UAE, Egypt and Saudi Arabia cut diplomatic ties and transport links with Qatar, a move that initially stranded passengers and resulted in a drop in fares for Qatar Airways.

Iraqi Shiite militia says 40 of its fighters killed in Syria

BAGHDAD (AP)—A powerful Iraqi Shiite militia said Tuesday that at least 40 of its militiamen were killed in an attack the previous day on its positions across the border in Syria. The militia blamed the U.S.-led coalition for the assault but the Islamic State group claimed its fighters had targeted the militiamen. The deputy head of the militia, known as Kattaib Sayeed al-Shuhadaa, accused U.S. forces of carrying out the early Monday assault. The Baghdad-based spokesman of the U.S.-led coalition, Army Col. Ryan Dillon, dismissed the allegation, saying on Twitter that no coalition airstrikes took place in the area at the time. According to the militia's deputy, Ahmed al-Maksousi, they were hit by artillery fire in Syria's Jamouna area, about 12 kilometers (about 7.5 miles) from the Iraqi border.

Traveler shot dead at ticket counter in Venezuelan airport

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—A traveler was shot to death Tuesday at the ticket counter of Caracas' international airport in the latest tragedy to befall the country's main connection to the world. An airport security video circulating on social media shows another man with a handbag walk calmly past a group of bystanders and shoot at the victim before fleeing on foot. Authorities said they were investigating but gave no details other than to say the victim was from the Dominican Republic. Local media reported the dead man was a lawyer and was waiting for a connecting domestic flight to the western Venezuela city of Maracaibo after arriving from the Dominican Republic. An employee of the local airline La Venezolana was also shot in the arm.

Environment

How safe is your tuna? It's important to know where it was caught

By Deborah Sullivan Brennan
THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

TNS
Tuna caught in industrialized areas of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans have 36 times more pollutants than those fished in remote parts of the West Pacific, scientists from Scripps Oceanography have found.

SAN DIEGO—Tuna caught in industrialized areas of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans have 36 times more pollutants than those fished in remote parts of the West Pacific, scientists from Scripps Oceanography have found.

The researchers tracked concentrations of toxins in tuna around the world and found that the location of fish, as much as its species, can affect how safe it is to eat.

"The pollutant levels in seafood — and tuna in our case — can be heavily determined by the location where it was caught," said lead author Sascha Nicklisch, a postdoctoral researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. "It is important to know the origin of catch of the fish, to know the amount of pollutants in your fish."

Researchers said they hoped the study would help advance understanding of how toxins enter our food supply through seafood and how to manage fisheries to reduce that risk.

The study, published in the June issue of the academic journal Environmental Health Perspectives, tested tuna from locations around the globe for the presence of pesticides, coolants and flame retardants. Together, they're part of a class of chemicals called persistent organic pollutants, which accumulate in body tissue and make their way up the food chain.

Big fish and predators tend to have higher levels of toxic chemicals, so tuna offered a good means of tracking them. And yellowfin, which are relatively large fish but have shorter ranges than other tuna species, allowed researchers to look at regional pollutants.

"They stay in the location where they are born and hunt," Nicklisch said. "So we tried to use these tuna to create a snapshot of local contamination."

Scientists identified eight key sites around the globe and analyzed 10 fish from each of them. To collect the samples, staff researcher Lindsay Bonito traveled from Tonga to Panama, Louisiana, Hawaii, Guam and Vietnam, chasing tuna.

"I was tasked to go out and actually secure tuna from all over the world," Bonito said. "I would either go out and fish for it, or contact fishermen."

They screened the fish for 247 toxic compounds and calculated pollutant concentrations for each area. Average toxin levels in tuna from the most polluted areas were 36 times those found in the least polluted areas. The differences between individual fish were even higher. Toxic levels in the most and least contaminated tuna samples varied by a factor of 180, according to the report.

In general, Nicklisch said, the more contaminated sites were industrialized areas of the northern hemisphere, including ocean regions off the Atlantic coast of Europe, and the east and west coasts of North America. Those off of Asia, and in the Pacific Islands were relatively clean, he said.

"The sites where we caught them are known to be more pristine, such as kingdom of Tonga," he said.

Because food-borne toxins can affect the health of people who eat them, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Food and Drug Administration issue guidelines on how much fish to eat, with more protective recommendations for children and pregnant or nursing women.

Most of the tuna analyzed in the study would be considered safe under current guidelines, the researchers said. But there were wide variations between regions, and some areas, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean around Europe, had high levels of unsafe fish.

In all of the tuna samples, researchers found a particularly pernicious set of chemicals. Each fish tested contained 10 specific compounds that interfere with proteins that regulate cell membranes and fend off toxins, Nicklisch said. By disabling that defense, the toxic compounds open the floodgate to a host of other pollutants.

"These compounds might lead to accumulation of chemicals in these tuna, because the proteins usually block those compounds in fish, but also in us, in humans," Nicklisch said.

He said he hoped the study would lead to better safety testing of chemicals found in food, and enhance public information and labeling of seafood.

"The most important part of the take-home message is that it's important to know where your fish was caught," he said.

US scientists contradict Trump's climate claims

WASHINGTON (AP)— As President Donald Trump touts new oil pipelines and pledges to revive the nation's struggling coal mines, federal scientists are warning that burning fossil fuels is already driving a steep increase in the United States of heat waves, droughts and floods.

It is the latest example of collisions between Trump's environmental policies and the facts presented by his government's experts.

Contradicting Trump's claims that climate change is a "hoax," the draft report representing the consensus of 13 federal agencies concludes that the evidence global warming is being driven by human activities is "unambiguous." That directly undercuts statements by Trump and his Cabinet casting doubt on whether the warming observed around the globe is being primarily driven by man-made carbon pollution.

"There are no alternative explanations, and no natural cycles are found in the observational record that can explain the observed changes in climate," says the report, citing thousands of peer-reviewed studies. "Evidence for a changing climate abounds, from the top of the atmosphere to the depths of the oceans."

Faced with reams of evidence compiled by federal scientists that conflicts with their policy positions, Trump and his advisers frequently cite the work of industry-funded think tanks. Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt and Energy Secretary Rick Perry have championed the formation of a "red-team, blue-team" exercise where climate-change skeptics would publicly debate mainstream climate scientists.

Submitted as part of the upcoming National Climate Assessment, the draft federal report sends the overriding message that failing to curb carbon pollution now will exacerbate negative consequences in the future. That assessment calls into question the wisdom of Trump's environmental and energy policies, which seek to boost U.S. production and consumption of fossil fuels even as the world's other leading economies promote cleaner sources of energy.

An early version of the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, was distributed widely in December for review by leading scientists. The New York Times published a copy Monday.

The U.S. Global Change Research Program, which will edit and produce the final climate report, did not respond to phone calls and emails seeking comment on Tuesday.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders criticized the Times for reporting on the draft document "without first verifying its contents with the White House or any of the federal agencies directly involved with climate and environmental policy."

She then declined to comment on the report.

"The White House will withhold comment on any draft report before its scheduled release date," Sanders said.

The assessment has generally been released every four years under a federal initiative mandated by Congress in 1990. The current draft for 2018, targeted for release later this year, largely builds on the conclusions of the 2014 assessment released under the Obama administration.

The assessment said global temperatures will continue to rise without steep reductions in the burning of fossil fuels, with increasingly dire effects on the lives of every American.

Worldwide, 15 of the last 16 years have been the warmest years on record. Today, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said 2017 is on track to be the second warmest for the United States.

Scientists from all over the world have documented warming in the air and water, melting glaciers, disappearing snow, shrinking sea ice and rising sea level. The report said the United States will see temperature increases of at least 2.5 degrees (1.4 degrees Celsius) over the next few decades, even with significant cuts to carbon pollution.

Even if humans stop spewing heat-trapping gases today, the world will warm another half a degree (0.3 degrees Celsius), the report said, citing high confidence in those calculations. Scientists, such as Stanford University's Chris Field, say that even a few tenths of a degree of warming can have a dramatic impact on human civilization and the natural environment.

"Every increment in warming is an increment in risk," said Field, who wasn't part of the report but reviewed it for The National Academy of Sciences.

Trump, who has called climate change a "total con job" and "hoax" perpetrated to harm U.S. economic competitiveness, has spearheaded a wholesale scrapping of Obama-era initiatives that sought to reduce carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants and other sources. Last week, Trump's administration formally told the United Nations that the U.S. intends to pull out of the international climate accord signed in 2015, in which nearly 200 nations pledged to reduce carbon emissions.

U.S. climate scientists have watched these policy developments with increasing alarm, with some expressing concern the Trump administration might seek to bury or significantly water down the quadrennial climate assessment.

Four co-authors of the science assessment, who spoke to AP on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue, said they have not heard of or witnessed any attempt by the White House to suppress or censor the scientific document.

"It was under the radar and we were fine about that," one author told AP on Tuesday.

Life & Style

DJ in groping case says he may have touched Swift's ribs

DENVER (AP)—A former radio disc jockey accused of groping Taylor Swift before a concert testified Tuesday that he may have touched the pop superstar's ribs with a closed hand as he tried to jump into a photo with her but insisted he did not touch her backside as she claims.

David Mueller told jurors at the civil trial on dueling lawsuits filed by Mueller and Swift that he and the singer-songwriter were trying to reach around one another and "our hands touched and our arms touched" during a photo opportunity he estimated lasted no more than 40 seconds.

Under questioning by his attorney, Mueller said he may have touched Swift's "rib cage, or rib, or ribs."

The 2013 photo of Swift, Mueller and Mueller's girlfriend taken at the pre-concert event in Denver is a key piece of evidence in Mueller's suit claiming he was fired after being falsely accused by Swift. He is seeking at least $3 million.

The photo shows Mueller with his hand behind Swift, just below her waist. Both are smiling.

Her lawyers have called the photo "damning" proof that Mueller groped her.

Mueller's lawyer, Gabriel McFarland, showed jurors the photograph during his opening remarks. Two jurors stared at the photo on their computer monitors while a few others kept glancing at it as McFarland spoke.

"If you look at that photograph, his hand is not underneath Miss Swift's skirt, and her skirt is not rumpled in any fashion," McFarland said, noting that no one on Swift's concert team saw anything amiss.

Mueller also testified that one of his station bosses, Hershel Coomer, told him that he had met Swift earlier before the show and that "he told me that he had his hands on her butt."

Mueller said, "I thought he was just telling me one of his stories."

Under cross-examination, Mueller couldn't explain why he didn't tell a boss investigating the incident about the exchange with Coomer.

Swift has said she is positive it was Mueller who groped her.

Swift has countersued Mueller, claiming sexual assault. She is seeking a symbolic $1, saying she wants to serve as an example to other women who have been assaulted.

Proceedings ended for the day Tuesday and were set to resume Wednesday.

In his opening statement, Douglas Baldridge, an attorney for Swift, told jurors that his superstar client is "absolutely certain" she was sexually assaulted and will prove it in court.

Baldridge also asked what possible reason Swift would have to make up an allegation.

"That's the one and only story we have to tell you—that Mr. Mueller grabbed her rear end," he said.

Mueller's attorney told jurors that inappropriate touching is wrong, but falsely accusing someone of the offense is equally unacceptable.

Mueller, wearing a smoke gray jacket and a white shirt, sat in court with his back to Swift and her mother, Andrea Swift.

Taylor Swift had her hair in a bun and wore a conservative black dress with tights. She is expected to testify later in the trial.

Mueller testified that he wants to clear his name and recover earnings he lost after being fired. He said he hasn't been able to get a job in radio since the incident.

"It's a humiliating experience to be accused of something that despicable," he testified.

Baldridge repeatedly interrupted Mueller during an aggressive cross-examination and noted that Mueller has said he lost an audio recording of a meeting he had with his bosses before they fired him.

"We'll never know what's on it, will we?" Baldridge asked.

"No, we won't," Mueller responded. "They're gone."

Baldridge repeatedly asked Mueller if he could grasp "any reason, incentive or motive for Miss Swift" to make up the allegation or be involved in 2 years of litigation.

"I cannot," Mueller replied.

Baldridge did get Mueller to concede that various supervisors with KYGO and its parent firm had discussed the possibility of letting him go even before the encounter with Swift.

Glen Campbell, 'Rhinestone Cowboy' singer, dies at age 81

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Glen Campbell, the affable superstar singer of "Rhinestone Cowboy" and "Wichita Lineman" whose appeal spanned country, pop, television and movies, died Tuesday, his family said. He was 81.

n this July 27, 2011 photo, musician Glen Campbell poses for a portrait in Malibu, Calif. AP

Campbell's family said the singer died Tuesday morning in Nashville and publicist Sandy Brokaw confirmed the news. No cause was immediately given. Campbell announced in June 2011 that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and that it was in its early stages at that time.

"Glen is one of the greatest voices there ever was in the business and he was one of the greatest musicians," said Dolly Parton in a video statement. "He was a wonderful session musician as well. A lot of people don't realize that. But he could play anything and he could play it really well."

Tributes poured in on social media. "Thank you Glen Campbell for sharing your talent with us for so many years May you rest in peace my friend You will never be forgotten," wrote Charlie Daniels. One of Campbell's daughters, Ashley, said she was heartbroken. "I owe him everything I am, and everything I ever will be. He will be remembered so well and with so much love," she wrote on Twitter.

"You were a shining light in so many ways," Brad Paisley tweeted.

In the late 1960s and well into the '70s, the Arkansas native was seemingly everywhere with his boyish face, wavy hair and friendly tenor. He won five Grammys, sold more than 45 million records, had 12 gold albums and 75 chart hits, including No. 1 songs with "Rhinestone Cowboy" and "Southern Nights."

His performance of the title song from the 1969 film "True Grit," in which he played a Texas Ranger alongside Oscar winner John Wayne, received an Academy Award nomination. He twice won album of the year awards from the Academy of Country Music and was voted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2005. Seven years later, he received a Grammy for lifetime achievement.

His last record was "Adios," released in June, featured songs that Campbell loved to sing but never recorded, including tunes made famous by Bob Dylan, Linda Ronstadt and Johnny Cash. Ashley Campbell, also a musician, made a quest appearance and said making the album was "therapeutic."

Campbell was among a wave of country crossover stars that included Johnny Cash, Roy Clark and Kenny Rogers, and like many of his contemporaries, he enjoyed success on television. Campbell had a weekly audience of some 50 million people for the "Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour," on CBS from 1969 to 1972. He gained new fans decades later when the show, featuring his cheerful greeting "Hi I'm Glen Campbell," was rerun on cable channel CMT.

"I did what my Dad told me to do—'Be nice, son, and don't cuss. And be nice to people.' And that's the way I handled myself, and people were very, very nice to me," Campbell told The Telegraph in 2011.

He released more than 70 of his own albums, and in the 1990s recorded a series of gospel CDs. A 2011 album, "Ghost On the Canvas," included contributions from Jacob Dylan, Rick Nielsen of Cheap Trick and Billy Corgan of Smashing Pumpkins.

Game of Thrones: As the mighty fall, will the lowly rise?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Times are tough for the great families of Westeros in HBO's "Game of Thrones."

Sharp-tongued fan favorite Lady Olenna, matriarch of the Tyrell clan, was just forced to gulp down a vial of poison. The menfolk of House Frey were summarily dispatched in the Season 7 opener by avenging angel Arya Stark. And when last we saw Ser Jaime Lannister, he had just missed being incinerated by dragon fire, only to find himself sinking into a lake, weighed down by his own armor.

Grim stuff indeed has befallen Westeros' ruling class.

But as economics writers for the Associated Press, we wondered: Could the destruction of the established order have an upside for the beleaguered people of Westeros? Could it narrow the economic divide that leaves peasants impoverished and hungry while the rich enjoy fine wines and luxuriate in vast castles?

We discuss the economic implications of war and the resulting social fallout on our weekly audio show, "The Wealth of Westeros."

In his 2013 book and surprise best-seller "Capital in the 21st Century," the French economist Thomas Piketty argued that 20th century's two world wars—and the taxes required to pay for them -humbled and reduced the economic elites of the United States and Europe. The decline of the 1 percent and the policies and social structures that kept them on top set the stage for decades of unprecedented economic equality and the rise of a prosperous middle class.

War is certainly ravaging Westeros' blue-blood families. Most of the Tyrells of prosperous Highgarden were killed off last season in a massive bombing; Lady Olenna survived to plot revenge—until she, too, was cornered and forced into suicide.

Gone are the Freys, the Martells (slaughtered in a coup) and the Boltons (done in by their own malice and treachery). The Tullys have lost their ancestral castle. The Greyjoys are divided. And the Lannisters, though technically rulers of the realm, are down to one sibling couple; they have no more heirs and face enemies on all sides.

So is the time right for a great social leveling across Westeros?

Well, maybe.

"When established hierarchies are toppled over, you get at least a brief period of something like meritocracy, where the people who are able rise to the top," says our guest this week, Lyman Stone, a Washington economist who has written about Game of Thrones.

In Europe, the worst medieval catastrophes did create some pressure for change. After the Black Death in 1348, which killed an estimated one-third of Europe's population, surviving peasants pushed for higher wages to work the fields.

But aristocrats pushed back, and in Great Britain laws were passed that barred workers from demanding more pay, or even moving to different regions for better opportunities. Historians say the law was poorly enforced, but resistance to it eventually contributed to an uprising in 1381 known as the Peasants' Revolt.

The rise of the middle class in the mid-1900s didn't just reflect war. It came at a time of mass industrialization and surging productivity growth, which created opportunities for millions of laborers leaving farms to make way for mechanized agriculture. Previous upheavals—such as the Thirty Years War of 1618-1648, which wiped out about a fifth of the population of Germany—did not produce appreciable drops in inequality.

'Empire,''Star' worlds intersect on season openers

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Queen Latifah says she easily envisioned a "Star" crossover episode with "Empire" even if the executive producer for the shows didn't.

Latifah said both dramas deal with the music industry and their characters share similarities. For instance, she said, her character, Carlotta Brown, and Taraji P. Henson's Cookie Lyon on "Empire" are strong, powerful women.

Producer Lee Daniels said the crossover set for their season debuts was Fox's idea, not his, but seemed logical.

On Sept. 27, "Star" and "Empire" will return and air back-to-back. A musical number in "Star" will feature choreography inspired by a Daniels' favorite, Bob Fosse of Broadway and movie fame.

"Empire" will focus on Terrence Howard's injured Lucious Lyon.

New mugshot from prison shows a completely bald Phil Spector

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A mugshot newly taken of Phil Spector in prison shows the Rock & Roll Hall of Famer completely free of the huge hair that was so striking during his trial.

The photo taken in June and provided Tuesday by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation also shows the 76-year-old music producer smiling broadly and wearing hearing aids on both ears.

Previous mugs of Spector have shown him bald on top but with long, stringy hair in the back. He is now completely bald, a far cry from the bizarre wigs he wore at his two trials.

He was convicted in 2009 of killing actress Lana Clarkson, and is serving a sentence of 19 years to life.

The conviction came after a storied career as a pop innovator behind hits like "Da Doo Ron Ron" and "You've Lost That Loving Feeling."

AP

In this May 23, 2005 file photo music producer Phil Spector appears during his trial at the Los Angeles Superior Court in Los Angeles.

Seth MacFarlane favors sci-fi optimism in TV's 'The Orville'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Seth MacFarlane is seeking escape from the current wave of dystopian science fiction, and his vehicle is "The Orville."

MacFarlane said Tuesday that he wants to recapture an optimistic view of the future in his new space adventure for Fox, one that echoes past "Star Trek" series.

He told a TV critics' meeting he also wants to buck the trend of serialized dramas, with each one-hour episode of "The Orville" a self-contained story.

He said continuity is provided by the characters, including the Orville captain that MacFarlane plays in the show he created.

AP

Seth MacFarlane participates in the "The Orville" panel during the FOX Television Critics Association Summer Press Tour at the Beverly Hilton on Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

The show set 400 years in the future will include comic elements, MacFarlane said, but isn't a satire in the style of space movies "Galaxy Quest" or Mel Brooks' "Spaceballs."

"The Orville" debuts Sept. 10 on Fox.

Fox to counter ABC's 'American Idol' with new contest

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Fox will counter its onetime powerhouse "American Idol" with a new singing contest, "The Four."

The network canceled its long-running "American Idol" last year because of dwindling ratings and rising costs, only to see it snapped up by ABC for an early 2018 debut.

Fox Television Group CEO Dana Walden, announcing the new series Tuesday, said there's room for a "fresh" take on the contest format as she defended the axing of "American Idol."

While other shows are "more about celebrity panels and less about star-making," Walden told a TV critics' meeting, "The Four" will be the opposite.

"Our show begins where the others end," she said, with four finalists pre-selected from auditions by a panel of industry experts. The singers will have to fend off weekly challenges from newcomers trying to replace them. Viewers who believe they "have the goods" can upload an audition video and possibly go from sitting on their couch one week to competing the next, Walden said.

The show's prize: a career guided by the show's panel, which Fox indicated is likely to be drawn from music producers, songwriters and perhaps a pop star-mentor.

Like "American Idol," which transferred a format tested in another country (Britain's "Pop Idol"), "The Four" is based on an Israeli show.

Walden struck a confident tone about chances for "The Four" in a field that will include the "American Idol" reboot and current singing contest champ "The Voice," which airs on NBC.

"I don't anticipate that we'll put it up against 'Voice' or 'American Idol' because we really believe in this show. We're not developing it to just try to create some noise in the same space," she said.

"The Four" will have a shorter season than other singing contests, part of the plan to make it an "event," said Rob Wade, president of alternative programming for the Fox network.

Wade said the moment when a challenger auditions against a finalist is "brilliantly dramatic" and exciting. "It's like 'Game of Thrones,' with better singing and less nudity," he added.

There were no second thoughts expressed by Walden about calling it quits on "Idol," although she said Fox was "taken aback" when producer FremantleMedia decided to bring it back so quickly after its much-hyped farewell season.

The series had become very expensive and its ratings had dropped to a fraction of what they were, creating "terrible" economics, she said. Fox tried and failed to work out a new format with the producer, she said.

Disney to launch streaming services for movies, live sports

NEW YORK (AP)—With new streaming services in the works, Disney is trying to set itself up for a future that's largely been framed by Netflix: Providing the stuff you want to watch, when you want to watch it.

The Magic Kingdom is launching its own streaming service for its central Disney and Pixar brands and another for live sports. That would allow it to bypass the cable companies it relies on—and Netflix—to charge consumers directly for access to its popular movies and sporting events.

"They're bringing the future forward. What they talked about were things that looked inevitable, at some point," said Pivotal Research Group analyst Brian Weiser. What's less clear is if Disney will be able to make big bucks from it, he said.

This is important as the decline in cable households and the shift to smaller, cheaper bundles pressures the profitability of Disney's cable networks. Fewer subscribers and fewer viewers mean less money. In the nine months through July 1, cable networks' operating income fell 13 percent from the year before, to $4.12 billion.

Mom wants daughter to focus on school, not dad's tattoos

DEAR ABBY: My 22-year-old son is going to visit his father and get his third tattoo. I don't like it, but I can't control my son. He's an adult. His father is retired and lives on his wife's pension. It is my understanding that they are wealthy.

My concern is for our 14-year-old daughter. My ex thinks tattoos are cool, and when he talks to her via Skype, he talks about the next tattoo he is going to get. I'm afraid that when she's 18, he will take her to get a tattoo as a bonding experience.

His life is far removed from my daughter's. He is surrounded by actors, entertainers and artists. Our child (hopefully) will have a rich, abundant life in an ordinary way. She is focused on her studies and does well in school because of her efforts. How can I impress upon my not-so-confident, shy child that getting a tattoo is not a good idea?

MARY IN MISSOURI

DEAR MARY: Discouraging your daughter from getting a tattoo should be part of an ongoing conversation. Explain that— unlike makeup or temporary tats—the real thing is permanent. Once it's on, there is no going back. It will be there for the rest of her life unless she has it professionally removed. Point out that tattoo removal is not only expensive, but also painful, and her skin will not look the way it did before she got inked—she will be scarred.

Hopefully, it may make her less susceptible to "bonding" with her father in that way. Ultimately, however, when she's 18 and an adult, she will make her own decision about getting tattooed or remaining ink-free.

DEAR ABBY: My brother and sister-in-law have four children, ages 11, 10, 4 and 3. They are financially strapped and can't afford to take the children to entertainment or cultural events because every dime is spent for essentials.

I'm financially stable and childless. I take the older children to various activities once every month or so. I don't include the younger ones because they are unruly. I feel somewhat guilty for not including them. However, I want to continue doing it for the older children so they'll be exposed to various events they couldn't see otherwise.

Am I wrong for not wanting to be responsible for the younger children, or should I stop taking any of them out to be fair?

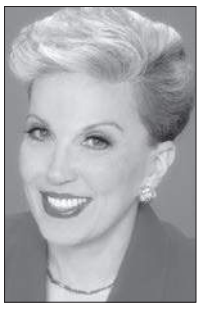
TRYING MY BEST IN THE SOUTH

DEAR TRYING: Explain to the parents, if you haven't already, that you would love to include the younger children, but that you are unable to because of their unruly behavior, which you are unable to control. What you're doing is not "unfair"; it is wise. If you were to take all four and not be able to control them, one of the little ones could be seriously injured.

Think of some other way you can make the younger children feel special. Perhaps taking them to a park occasionally would make them feel less left out.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

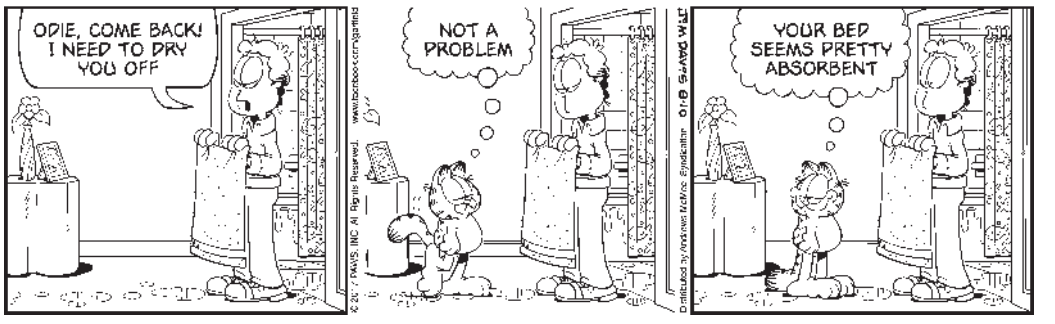
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WHEN'S THIS RAIN GOING TO LET UP?
I DON'T KNOW, CALVIN.
HEY, CHEER UP, GANG! I PACKED STORM GEAR. "ALWAYS BE PREPARED," YOU KNOW.
THESE PONCHOS ARE SUPER. THEY'RE THERMAL-SEALED LIGHTWEIGHT NYLON, LAMINATED WITH FLEXIBLE URETHANE FOR COMPLETE WATER PROTECTION!
YEAH, DAD. IT'S GREAT THAT WE WON'T GET WETTER THAN WE ALREADY ARE.
ZINC OXIDE, THONGS, TANNING LOTION... WRONG DUFFEL BAG. LET'S SEE, WHICH ONE OF THESE HAS IT?

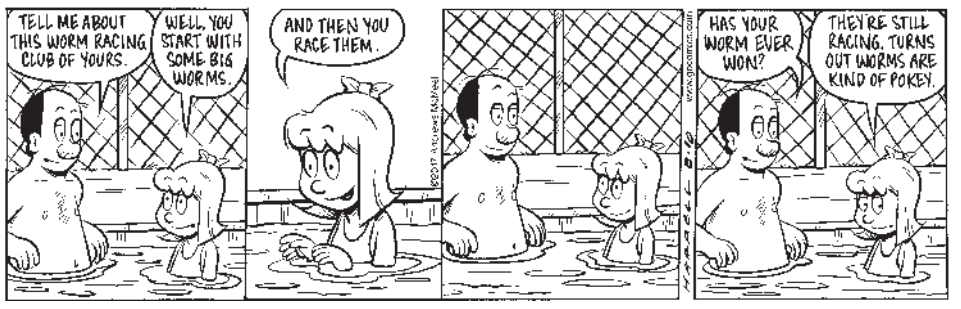
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



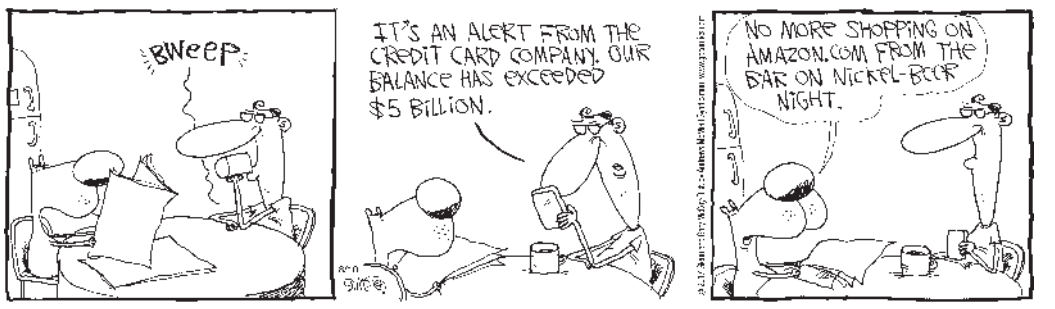
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


TELL ME ABOUT THIS WORM RACING CLUB OF YOURS.
WELL, YOU START WITH SOME BIG WORMS.
AND THEN YOU RACE THEM.
HAS YOUR WORM EVER WON?
THEY'RE STILL RACING. TURNS OUT WORMS ARE KIND OF POKEY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

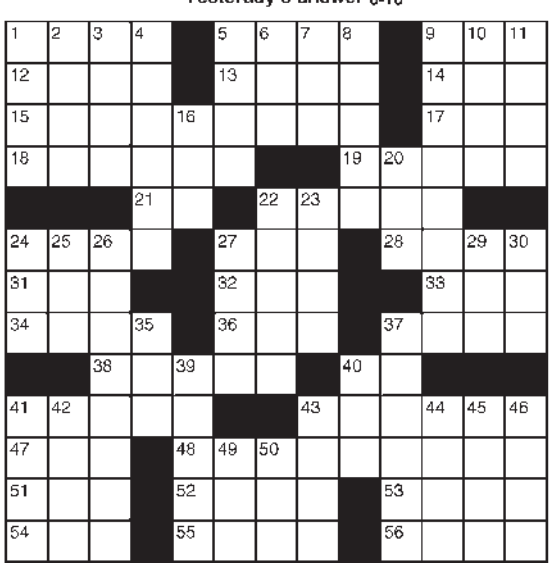
ACROSS
1 Soccer star Mia
5 First victim
9 Hotel amenity
12 Location
13 Style
14 Sushi fish
15 Object of a futile chase
17 Mao — -tung
18 Daytona 500 acronym
19 Daphnis' love
21 While
22 Mackerel relative
24 Skydive
27 Jazzy style
28 Bark
31 "As I see it," in a text
32 Ram's mate
33 — Lanka
34 Sharp tooth
36 Free (of)
37 Bartlett, for one
38 Canyon
40 "Greetings!"
41 Repeat verbatim
43 Aerie newborn
47 Dos preceder
48 Relax
51 TGIF part
52 Awe-struck
53 — Major
54 "The Raven" writer
55 Physique
56 Abound

DOWN
1 Actress Goldie
2 Met melody
3 "Alice" diner
4 Wild and crazy
5 Latin love
6 Scary cry
7 Mag. staff
8 Blood-sucker
9 Unleash
10 Mexican money
11 Sheltered
16 Cooking fuel
20 Explanation
22 "Holy cow!"
23 Lacked originality
24 Skippy rival
25 Actress Thurman
26 Rikki-Tikki-Tavi is one
27 Floating ice mass
29 Man-mouse link
30 Fragrant tree
35 Understood
37 Eat an entire pizza, say
39 Detox center
40 "2001" computer
41 Witticism
42 Golden rule word
43 Like custard
44 Traditional tales
45 Being, to Brutus
46 Squad
49 In the past
50 Affirmative action?

Solution time: 24 mins.

E	B	B	S		G	A	S		S	M	O	G
T	R	A	P		U	M	P		P	E	R	U
C	A	R	F	F	R	E	F		O	D	E	S
H	E	D	W	I	G		A	R	T	I	S	T
			S	A	L		R	O	T	C		
A	S	S		I	E	N		D	E	A	I	H
B	I	K	E		D	I	M		D	R	E	I
S	P	I	N	E		T	O	M		E	X	T
		N	A	T	O		N	E	A			
Y	U	C	C	A	S		A	T	T	I	C	A
A	T	A	T		C	A	R	E	W	O	R	N
P	A	R	E		A	R	C		A	T	A	D
S	I	F	D		R	A	I		R	A	M	S

Yesterday's answer 8-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Angie Harmon, 45; Justin Theroux, 46; Antonio Banderas, 57; Rosanna Arquette, 58.

Happy Birthday: You'll have plenty of options and opportunities to get ahead this year if you stay focused on legalities, investments and contractual matters. Your insight, common sense and drive to excel will give you the chance to put all your skills to work. Trust in your abilities and your ideas, and forge into the future with confidence. Your numbers are 8, 13, 24, 26, 32, 41, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Stay focused on your achievements. Monetary gains can be made if you are diligent about finishing what you start. Seeing matters through to the end will help you move forward. Don't let emotions stand in your way. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Speak up if you are having second thoughts about getting involved in a joint venture. Don't worry if someone is upset with you for backing out of something that makes you feel uneasy. Do what's best for you. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let your emotions interfere with making a good decision. You will have trouble seeing clearly on issues that concern a loved one or a personal change you want to make. Take a moment to rethink your plan before moving forward. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Keep your emotions out of the workplace. Use your intuition to help make the best decision regarding a position that interests you. Romance is in the stars and will improve your relationship with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Look for a good investment or rethink your financial strategy. Taking care of your mental, physical and financial needs will help to ease your stress and lead you toward a better lifestyle. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll have plenty of good ideas and the chance to show off your capabilities if you participate in activities that are work-related. Don't miss out because someone puts emotional demands on you. Personal improvements will turn out well. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Someone will try to restrict what you can and cannot do. Refuse to take on more responsibility without getting something in return for your time and effort. If things aren't going your way, alter how you go about your business. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let the past ruin your future. Carrying excess forward isn't recommended. Resolve old issues and clear your mind of any negativity that will stifle your dreams. Romance will improve your personal life, but don't try to buy love. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Be careful where you leave your money, passwords, personal information and possessions. Someone will take advantage of you if you are too generous or eager to lend a helping hand. Ulterior motives are apparent, and so is loss or theft. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let your emotions limit you. Note what others want but don't feel obligated to get involved or agree to something that isn't in your best interest. Let your intuition help you make the choices that are best for you. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Responsibilities will weigh you down if you take on too much. Enlist the help of someone you have partnered with in the past. You may have to share your returns, but at least you will be able to accomplish your goals. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Listen carefully and don't leave out any details when offering answers. It's important to stay on track and offer a clear picture of what you expect and what you are willing to give back. An unusual partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, inventive and kind. You are flexible and reflective.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			1	8			2	
			9		7			4
		6						
2	1		6				8	
3								7
	8				9		6	1
						8		
4			3		5			
	2			7	4			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	7	4	9	6	3	8	1	2
3	1	6	7	8	2	4	5	9
9	2	8	1	4	5	7	3	6
7	6	3	5	9	4	2	8	1
2	8	1	6	3	7	5	9	4
4	5	9	8	2	1	3	6	7
8	4	2	3	1	6	9	7	5
6	9	7	2	5	8	1	4	3
1	3	5	4	7	9	6	2	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

DYED-IN-THE-WOOL Solution: 8 letters

E	T	A	R	E	T	E	V	N	I	E	G	T	T	G
C	R	E	S	N	E	T	N	I	T	N	S	N	N	N
N	O	T	I	O	N	U	Y	U	O	A	E	I	E	I
E	O	L	A	Y	O	L	L	R	F	T	S	P	N	Y
D	T	C	O	P	M	O	T	D	S	I	O	O	A	R
I	E	O	I	R	S	S	A	I	M	L	T	S	M	R
F	D	N	I	B	E	E	S	O	I	E	N	I	R	A
N	C	F	A	C	T	R	R	T	A	H	T	T	E	C
O	I	I	U	S	E	P	I	M	A	G	H	I	P	D
C	T	R	S	P	M	C	S	I	O	U	I	O	U	R
K	E	M	O	O	A	E	T	O	D	O	N	N	S	A
C	O	N	C	L	U	S	I	O	N	T	K	C	H	C
I	P	N	I	N	H	A	B	I	T	U	A	L	H	S
P	U	X	A	M	A	D	A	M	A	N	Ⓣ	Ⓒ	Ⓐ	Ⓟ
G	N	I	L	E	E	F	H	G	U	O	R	O	H	T

© 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 8/10

Absolute, Adamant, Card Carrying, Conclusion, Confidence, Confirm, Dote, Feeling, Firmly, Habits, Habitual, Intense, Inveterate, Loyal, Max, Notion, Pact, Permanent, Persistent, Pick, Poetic, Political, Position, Push, Resolute, Rooted, Secure, Social, Staunch, Steadfast, Strong, Team, Think, Thorough, Tough, Uncompromising

Yesterday's Answer: Crackers

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2**, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

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IT&E
Life In Motion

MARKETING SERVICES MANAGER

JVA# CNMI 1-2017-6

IT&E needs a Marketing Services Manager for the Marketing department. The Marketing Service Manager, under the guidance and general supervision of the Executive Director for Marketing is responsible for translating marketing objectives into holistic marketing communications executions to include creative strategies, merchandising (including in-store look and feel), tri-media social media designs, plans and implementation. The position will be in-charge of overall advertising and promotions and will manage external creative agencies, media partners, and internal graphic artists and other support teams, as needed. This position requires an individual who is highly self-motivated, resourceful, and possesses impeccable creative execution and leadership skills.

Candidates must have the following minimum qualifications:

Education: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in Marketing, Marketing Communications, Graphic/Applied/Computer/Digital Design, Advertising, Communications or related field

Work Experience: Five (5) years of experience performing professional level design and creative roles in marketing and/or advertising, including two (2) years in a supervisory-level

Interested individuals must submit an online application at https://careers.pticom.com/ no later than August 14, 2017.

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy or disability or genetic information.

We are also a Drug Free Workplace.

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Marianas USA LLC
is looking for

Window film installer "Film Specialist": 2 Positions (SAIPAN)

- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
- Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of height.
- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: Negotiable

3A'S POLYSHINE
Home of 'V-KOOL'
is looking for

UPHOLSTERER: 2 Positions (SAIPAN)

- Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
- Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
- Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- Salary: Negotiable
  Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a Upholsterer.

Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on **22nd AUGUST 2017.** Interview will be conducted from 23rd August 2017 at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

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DAY&NIGHT

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: FISCAL OFFICER
PAY-LEVEL: P.L. 28 / STEP 1-10
REPORTS TO: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OVERVIEW:

This is an exempt professional position responsible for the management of office/program fiscal systems including but not limited to all accounts receivables and program expenditures. The Fiscal Officer is selected by and reports to the Executive Director and works under limited supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✔ Bachelors Degree (B.A. and/or B.S.) in a field related to work of this position or no less than 120 credit hours from an accredited post-secondary school in areas related to the work of this position;
- ✔ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of federal and/or state grants management systems and any applicable policies, laws and other relevant regulations; and
- ✔ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of accounting and/or auditing concepts as they apply to state and federal government funds.

HOW TO APPLY:
Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on middle road approximately 100 yards north of the Guala Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application packets must be submitted to the NMPASI Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. Deadline for submission of applications packet is on Monday, August 28, 2017 at 5pm. In order for applications to be considered they must include (1) a Cover Letter, (2) a Resumé, (3) Completed Application forms. Incomplete applications and/or applications which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact Mr. James Rayphand at (670) 235-7273/4 [voice] / 235-7278 [tty] or email at jrayphand@nmpasi.org.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

PINNACLES

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Lamb's slam gives D-backs 6-3 win over Dodgers

PHOENIX (AP) — Jake Lamb hit his second career grand slam in the seventh inning and the Arizona Diamondbacks rallied to beat Los Angeles 6-3 on Tuesday night, handing the major league-leading Dodgers their eighth loss in the last 52 games.

Lamb, who also connected for a solo homer in the sixth, was hitting .143 against left-handers this season when he drove Tony Watson's 1-2 pitch off the right-field foul pole to put Arizona up 6-3.

Justin Turner homered twice for the Dodgers, who led 3-2 entering the bottom of the seventh. Watson (5-4) was charged with the loss.

David Hernandez (2-0) got one out for the win and Fernando Rodney worked the ninth for his 26th save in 31 tries.

AP

Arizona Diamondbacks' Jake Lamb (22) celebrates with Chris Iannetta (8) and A.J. Pollock (11) after hitting a grand slam during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in Phoenix.

Red Sox 2, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Chris Sale struck out 13 in eight innings, and the Red Sox earned their seventh straight victory.

Sale (14-4) reached double digits in strikeouts for the 15th time this season. He allowed two hits, and Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth for his 28th save.

The win pushed Boston's AL East lead over the New York Yankees to four games.

Dustin Pedroia, who returned to the lineup as the designated hitter after a stint on the disabled list with left knee inflammation, scored Boston's first run on a fielder's choice in the fourth. A bad throw by Austin Pruitt (6-3) prevented a possible inning-ending double play on Rafael Devers' chopper to the mound.

It was the only run allowed by Pruitt in his fourth major league start. He pitched 6 1/3 scoreless innings in a win at Houston last Wednesday.

Indians 4, Rockies 1

In Cleveland, Yan Gomes hit a three-run homer off Greg Holland with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting Corey Kluber and Cleveland to the victory.

After Austin Jackson tied it with a two-out bloop RBI single, Gomes connected on the first pitch from Holland (2-3), driving it into the seats in center field to touch off a wild celebration in Progressive Field.

Gomes flung his helmet and skipped around the bases as the Indians players danced out of their dugout at the improbable walk-off win.

Kluber (10-3) struck out 11 in his second straight complete game. He allowed three hits and walked none.

Charlie Blackmon homered for the Rockies.

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 2

In Toronto, Josh Donaldson hit two two-run homers for the Blue Jays, and J.A. Happ won his sixth straight decision against the Yankees.

Donaldson connected twice against CC Sabathia (9-5), who came in with an AL-best 2.29 ERA in 10 road starts. The 2015 AL MVP hit a drive to right-center in the first, and hooked one down the left field line in the third.

It was Donaldson's 12th multihomer game and his second this season, both coming against the Yankees.

Happ (5-8) allowed one run and four hits in 5 2/3 innings, improving to 6-0 in 10 starts against the Yankees since 2014.

Roberto Osuna got three outs for his 29th save in 36 chances.

Marlins 7, Nationals 3

In Washington, Miami slugger Giancarlo Stanton hit his career-high and major league-leading 38th homer of the season and drove in three runs.

Stanton crushed a first-pitch fastball from A.J. Cole (1-2) deep into the center-field stands in the fifth for a 4-1 lead following singles by Miguel Rojas and Dee Gordon.

Derek Dietrich also homered and drove in three runs for the Marlins. Gordon's RBI double and Dietrich's two-run single put Miami up 7-1 in the seventh.

Vance Worley (2-2) beat the Nationals for the second time in nine days. He allowed one run in six innings after holding Washington to two hits while pitching seven innings in Miami's 7-0 win on July 31.

Cardinals 10, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Missouri, Yadier Molina, Jedd Gyorko and Randal Grichuk homered, leading St. Louis to its fourth straight win.

Michael Wacha (9-4) allowed a three-run double to Cheslor Cuthbert but otherwise kept the Royals in check, surrendering six hits over six innings to win for the sixth time in seven decisions.

Molina connected against Jason Vargas (13-6) in the fourth and Grichuk and Gyorko connected to highlight the six-run fifth, when the crown-shaped videoboard at Kauffman Stadium suddenly went dark.

About half of it came back online in the seventh, when the Cardinals were tacking on runs.

White Sox 8, Astros 5

In Chicago, rookie Kevan Smith homered and drove in four runs, and the last-place White Sox stopped a six-game losing streak.

Left-hander Derek Holland (6-11) earned his first win since June 13, despite issuing seven walks in 5 2/3 innings. He had been 0-5 in eight starts and one relief appearance since beating Baltimore.

Dallas Keuchel (9-2) allowed a season-high eight runs and 10 hits in four innings for AL-leading Houston. He had a 1.67 ERA when he went on the disabled list for the second time with a neck injury, on June 8. The All-Star left-hander has a 10.50 ERA in three starts since his return.

Tyler Clippard pitched the ninth for his second save.

Mets 5, Rangers 4

In New York, rookie Chris Flexen got his first big league win and hit, and the Mets stopped a four-game losing streak.

Michael Conforto, Yoenis Cespedes and Travis d'Arnaud homered for New York, which led 4-0 after two innings. Cespedes went deep at Citi Field for just the third time this season, his first since June 17. D'Arnaud hit his first at home this year after nine on the road.

Joey Gallo, Adrian Beltre and Robinson Chirinos homered for Texas.

Flexen (1-1) allowed three runs and four hits in 5 2/3 innings in his third big league start. A.J. Ramos gave up Chirinos' two-out homer in the ninth, then retired Drew Robinson on a groundout for his 21st save.

Texas' A.J. Griffin (5-3) allowed four runs and four hits in five innings.

Padres 7, Reds 3

In Cincinnati, Jose Pirela had four hits and Yangervis Solarte had a homer among his three hits, powering the Padres to the victory.

San Diego's Luis Perdomo (6-6) escaped threats by inducing three groundball double plays — his specialty — while pitching into the seventh.

Cincinnati catcher Tucker Barnhart hit a three-run homer off Jose Torres.

The Padres improved to 4-1 against the Reds, who haven't won a season series from them since 2012. The Reds have gone 7-18 since the All-Star break.

San Diego piled up nine hits and five runs off Sal Romano (2-4), who was in trouble in each of his six innings. Austin Hedges homered for a 5-0 lead in the sixth. Solarte connected for a two-run shot an inning later.

Twins 11, Brewers 4

In Minneapolis, Brian Dozier hit his first career grand slam and Max Kepler and Eddie Rosario each homered twice, powering Minnesota to a two-game sweep of Milwaukee.

Matt Garza (5-6) turned in his shortest and worst start of the season with eight hits and eight runs allowed in 3 1/3 innings for the Brewers, who fell to 4-11 in their last 15 road games.

Twins starter Adalberto Mejia was pulled with one out in the fourth inning with pain in his upper left arm, after allowing seven hits and three runs. Tyler Duffey (1-3) relieved with two innings for his first victory of the season, and Dillon Gee struck out five over four scoreless innings for his first career save.

Pirates 6, Tigers 3

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen hit his 23rd homer, leading Pittsburgh to its fifth win in six games.

Pirates right-hander Chad Kuhl (5-7) allowed three runs and five hits in six innings in his second straight win. He also picked up the first two RBIs of his big league career on a two-run single in the fourth off Matthew Boyd (5-6).

McCutchen took Boyd to the seats in center field leading off the fourth for his franchise-record 13th interleague home run. David Freese added two hits for the Pirates, and Felipe Rivero worked a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Detroit has dropped four in a row.

Phillies 5, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Odubel Herrera hit a two-run homer, Zach Eflin pitched seven strong innings following his recall from the minors, and the Phillies continued their season-long mastery of the Braves.

After Maikel Franco drove in Freddie Galvis with a line-drive single to right field in the fifth inning, Herrera reached down to pull a low pitch from Julio Teheran (7-10) into the restaurant behind the right-field wall.

Freddie Freeman hit a first-inning homer off Eflin, who was recalled from Triple-A Lehigh Valley before the game and earned his first win of the season. Eflin (1-3) allowed two runs and seven hits.

The Phillies have won 10 of 12 against Atlanta this season.

Hector Neris pitched a perfect ninth for his 12th save in 15 chances.

Angels 3, Orioles 2

In Anaheim, California, Parker Bridwell, a right-hander the Angels picked up simply for cash in mid-April from the Orioles, came back to haunt his former team in a victory for Los Angeles over Baltimore.

Bridwell (6-1) went seven strong innings, holding the Orioles to one run and six hits. He struck out four and did not walk a batter. The Angels are 10-1 this season in games started by Bridwell.

Jeremy Hellickson (7-6) was matching Bridwell until running into trouble in the seventh. He had retired 10 straight in the 1-1 game when the Angels chased him with four consecutive hits.

Mariners 7, Athletics 6

In Oakland, California, Leonys Martin homered in the top of the 10th inning as the Mariners rallied from a four-run deficit to defeat the Athletics.

Martin hit a high arcing shot to right off a 2-1 94 mph fastball from Josh Smith (2-0) with two outs.

His second home run of the season pushed the Mariners' record on their nine-game road trip to 5-3.

Tony Zynch pitched out of a jam in the bottom of the 10th for his second save.

Marc Rzepczynski (2-0) pitched a scoreless inning in the bottom of the ninth.

The A's had runners at first and second with one out but Zynch struck out Chad Pinder swinging and got Matt Chapman to fly out to right.

Giants 6, Cubs 3

In San Francisco, Buster Posey hit a three-run homer in the first that was upheld after review and later stole a base, Ty Blach won his second straight start and the Giants beat the Cubs.

Replay showed Posey's drive to left-center had just enough to clear the wall and left fielder Jon Jay's outstretched glove before being caught by a fan.

Blach (8-7) hit an RBI single to help his cause and the Giants snapped a four-game losing streak to the Cubs with just their third win in the last 10 against Chicago, which rallied to win Game 4 of the NL Division Series and eliminate the Giants last October on the way to a World Series title.

Blach also beat the Cubs again after a May 22 win at Wrigley Field, allowing two runs on seven hits in seven innings Tuesday with three strikeouts and a walk.

McIlroy feeling right at home at Quail Hollow for the PGA

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Jordan Spieth is going for a career Grand Slam at the PGA Championship and doesn't appear to have a care in the world.

Rory McIlroy hasn't won a major in three years and expectations are higher than ever.

Blame that on Quail Hollow.

This is where McIlroy won his first PGA Tour event in 2010 when he fearlessly fired a 4-iron into the breeze and over the water to 6 feet for an eagle that allowed him to make the cut on the number, and then he followed with a 66-62 weekend. Quail Hollow is where he shot 61 in the third round to run away from a strong field for a seven-shot victory. He has played here seven times and has finished out of the top 10 just once.

It's not Tiger Woods at Torrey Pines.

But there's a reason McIlroy has been looking forward to this PGA Championship. And it's a big reason why he is the betting favorite by a slight margin over Spieth, who is just three weeks removed from winning the British Open.

The odds on McIlroy winning at Royal Birkdale were 20-1, some of the highest ever associated with him. He joked then that it was a good time to back him.

Now he's listed at 7-1, and he doesn't feel much differently.

"I told you those odds wouldn't last long," he said Tuesday. "I think it's partly to do with the upturn in form that I've had over the last few weeks. And then my history on this golf course—a couple of wins, beaten in a playoff, a few other top 10s.

"Things are a bit different than they were a couple of weeks ago."

McIlroy has posted seven straight rounds in the 60s going into the final major of the year, though he has not been in serious contention in either the British Open or the Bridgestone Invitational. A bad start held him back at Royal Birkdale—5 over through the opening six holes—and he was slowed by not hitting his wedges close enough or making enough putts at Firestone.

His long game has been solid as ever, and that figures to be an advantage on a course already softened by rain on Tuesday and with storms in the forecast for the rest of the week.

McIlroy, like Spieth, also has three legs of the career Grand Slam. He is lacking only the Masters, and he hasn't come particularly close in the three years he has gone to Augusta National with a chance to complete it. But there are differences.

AP
Rory McIlroy poses on the driving range after becoming an astronaut for an OMEGA advertisement at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C. on Monday, Aug. 7, 2017.

McIlroy won the British Open at Hoylake in 2014 and then had to wait nearly nine month for the Masters. That was plenty of time to think about it, to answer to it.

"It plays on your mind a little bit," he said. "I think that's where Jordan doesn't have to deal with that coming into this week. It's great to be able to ride on the crest of a wave and just sort of keep it going."

Spieth said that if every player was polled, all would agree that McIlroy will win a green jacket. He considered McIlroy's age (28) and how many more opportunities he had in front of him. However, Spieth also spoke last month about how important it was to capture his first major at the Masters in 2015 when he was 21. He got it out of the way without allowing pressure to build as it did for Phil Mickelson, who won his first major at 34, or Sergio Garcia, who won the Masters this year at 37.

So why is this different?

After all, Tom Watson was 32 and Arnold Palmer was 31 when they first went to the PGA Championship with a chance to get the career slam.

"Yeah, but it's totally different," Spieth said. "Because winning a major versus winning a career Grand Slam ... if you don't win a major versus you don't win a career Grand Slam, it's two different things in my mind."

McIlroy, meanwhile, isn't the only player trying to make sure the year doesn't end without him winning a major. Dustin Johnson looked good enough to win them all until he slipped down the stairs and wrenched his back on the eve of the Masters.

Johnson believes his game is close to where it was before the injury. What separates him from McIlroy is Quail Hollow. Johnson, who will stay at No. 1 regardless of what happens this week, has played Quail Hollow only three times, and not since 2011. He missed the cut twice and tied for 29th.

McIlroy almost feels like he can roll out of bed and play well at Quail Hollow.

He can only hope to join a short list of players who have won a major on the same course where they won a PGA Tour event—Woods (Pebble Beach and Torrey Pines, both times in the same year), Jack Nicklaus (Firestone), Ben Hogan (Riviera in the same year) and Walter Hagen (Olympia Fields).

"There's certain golf courses that you can see yourself shoot a score on," McIlroy said. "You don't really have to have your best game and you still feel like you have a chance to win. And that's sort of how it feels here."

Cutler comeback begins at Dolphins practice: 'It felt right'

DAVIE, Fla. (AP)—Jay Cutler woke up in his hotel room Tuesday morning and didn't know where he was. Then the fog cleared, and he realized it was time to go back to work.

The Miami Dolphins' new quarterback practiced for the first time since December, marking the start of his comeback from a brief retirement. Rust removal included 11-on-11 drills and one-on-one conversations as he learns the names of teammates.

When the workout ended, the 34-year-old Cutler said he had no second thoughts about deciding to renew his working relationship with coach Adam Gase and return for another season.

"It felt right," Cutler said. "Going into work and getting here and going through the motions of the practice, it felt good. I told Adam thanks for bringing me in. It's fun to be back out here."

Cutler, who parted with the Chicago Bears in March, agreed to delay his fledgling network TV career when he signed a $10 million, one-year contract with Miami. He's expected to start in place of Ryan Tannehill, who is out with a knee injury likely to sideline him for the entire season.

AP
Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Cutler (6) throws a pass during an NFL football training camp, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in Davie, Fla.

Cutler took the practice field wearing jersey No. 6, his number since high school, after reserve quarterback Brandon Doughty agreed to give it up. When Cutler began to throw, he looked light on his feet and quick and accurate with his passes while showing good arm strength.

Same old Jay, said Gase, who was the offensive coordinator when both were with the Bears.

"He remembers basically everything with the offense," Gase said. "He said he felt good, and he's not going to sugarcoat anything with me. He felt just right back in it."

Said Cutler: "It's kind of a crash course, if you already took the course before."

He underwent season-ending right shoulder surgery last December, but said his arm felt good and will need only a couple of days to be 100 percent. His timing will take a little bit to come back, he said, and the 88-degree morning temperature was hotter than he's used to.

Cutler's best moment came in individual drills, when he threw a 45-yard tight spiral that hit Jakeem Grant in stride at the goal line. Grant, a second-year reserve, described the moment as a dream come true.

"Everybody in the locker room grew up watching Jay," Grant said. "It's an honor for him to be on the team."

Cutler might not know Grant's name yet, but he seemed intent on getting to know everyone quickly. He spent much of practice engaged in steady conversation with backup quarterback Matt Moore, quarterbacks coach Bo Hardegree and even Tannehill.

"It's a tough situation for Ryan," Cutler said. "He has been great and supportive. He just wants to help this team win games."

Also supportive was Pro Bowl defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh, Cutler's nemesis when they were rivals in the NFC North.

"I've played against him many, many time," Suh said. "I actually got my first sack against him. A good dude. I don't like any quarterbacks, but he was one guy I definitely had respect for, because he took hits and never cried, never complained, just got up and played the next play."

There was no tackling in practice, and Cutler won't play in Thursday's exhibition opener, so he doesn't have to worry about sacks for a while. Tuesday was just a start; the hits will come later.

KONQER organizers looking for volunteers

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
After a successful first expansion into Palau, the KONQER team looks ahead to launching the first obstacle course challenge in the CNMI this coming September.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

KONQER Sports organizers are looking for volunteers that would help them in the inaugural event on Saipan. KONQER Saipan-King of the Hill set on Sept. 9 at the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park in Puerto Rico.

KONQER Sports president Kelli Wedd said one of their ways to help the community is through the volunteers that are entitled to some perks like participating in the obstacle course challenge free of charge.

Weld wrote to Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White, who then sent the invitation so federations could assign their athletes or other members as volunteers.

"In exchange for every 10 volunteers who assist with the event, KONQER Sports provides a $200 donation to their organization or federation. I know how hard these athletes work at their sport, and we love to be able to assist where we can to get them to their next competition, purchase new equipment, etc.," said Weld.

"In addition to the donation, the volunteers will also be able to participate in the event free of charge. The obstacle course is a blast," added the KONQER Sports chief.

KONQER started in Guam in 2015 and had also organized a similar event in Palau aside from Saipan. Promoting wellness through a fun and challenging obstacle course, where people of all fitness levels could enjoy, has been KONQER Sports' mission.

For more information, email Wedd at kelli.wedd@konqersports.com or at phone 671-482-7933.

In other news, KONQER and Saipan Brewing Company will host a series of pre-event happy hour starting today from 5pm to closing time at Salty's Grill and Café in Garapan.

Those who would attend the event will receive a promo code that entitles them to a 50-percent discount on the adult registration fee and a free five-ounce sample of SBC's latest beer product once proof of registration is shown.

Other happy hour events, which would start at 5pm, will be held on Aug. 24 at Safehouse and on Sept. 7 at Godfather's Beach Bar at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

$500K in FEMA funds for sports complex repairs

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reported that $505,220 in public assistance funds had been given by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help with the renovation and other repairs of the Oleai Sports Complex.

The Oleai Sports Complex and the facilities inside were heavily damaged when Typhoon Soudelor wrought havoc on Saipan on Aug. 2, 2015. To date, a total of $40,000 was spent for minor repairs and other replacements.

The money was used to fix the lights and other facilities damaged at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

FEMA's Public Assistance Office, through Patrick Guerrero and Reina Saures, is working closely with Northern Mariana Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifoi with the planned projects for the sports complex.

Torres said they are expecting all renovation and other repairs to be completed in time for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games, which Saipan would be hosting. "The administration is rolling out the bidding process for the several elements of the complex."

Resurfacing of the Oleai track oval was done in June and is now waiting to keep its Level II certification given by the International Association of Athletics Federations.

The IAAF certification is needed so the CNMI, through the Northern Marianas Athletics, could bid host IAAF-sanctioned events. Saipan will be hosting the 2018 Micronesian Athletics Championships, while the 2021 Pacific Mini Games will also be held here.

The Oleai track and field stadium was the only Level II certified eight-lane facility in the region, but the facility deteriorated over the years.

NMSA plans to level the field since there are some uneven parts while also putting a new dirt and grass. Fixing the drainage system and replacing the fence is also part of the project.

There are portions of the pitch that are uneven and packed hard. A different mower must also be used to in the maintenance of the grass once it is replaced, to avoid a different type of grass and weed to grow.

The floor of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, where volleyball matches will be held in the Mini Games, will be replaced, while new vents and ceiling panels will also be installed, and the walls repainted.

Rogolifoi asks teams to attend SBL meetings

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Saipan Baseball League coordinator Tony Rogolifoi is again requesting teams that are interested to join the upcoming season to attend today and tomorrow's meetings at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium's conference room.

The Masters will meet at 5:30pm Thursday, while Friday will be the Under-25 league's turn at the same time.

Rogolifoi said there are three teams that already confirmed their participation in the U25 division, while four signed up in the Masters.

Competing for the U25 crown are the Blue Jays, C.K. Bears, and the Pirates, while defending champion GSM Masters returns to defend their title against the Bolleros, BSI, and Papa Bears.

Rogolifoi said one he is hoping one more team would join in the U25 league. "Four teams would be perfect. I already reached out to some of the coaches and they are going to inform me by the end of the week. On or before the meeting."

He added that he wanted to open the season since there have been occasional rains. "As much as possible we want to begin now. We're hoping to open the season on Aug. 28 since it has been raining."

Rogolifoi also informed all teams to look for their respective sponsors to help them defray the league expenses—entry fee, uniforms, and equipment.

The league entry fee is $1,000 and should be made payable to SBL Inc. Deadline of payment of the entry fee is on or before 5pm on Aug. 25, Friday, and there won't be any extension.

Entry fees, uniforms, ground rules, equipment, and other related matters would be discussed in the meeting.

For more information, contact league director Rogolifoi at 234-6672 or 285-3966.

TEEN

From Page 28

attacked New Yangdong FC's defense and was fouled. Tenorio took the penalty shot, but New Yangdong FC's goalie caught the ball for the save.

Besides creating scoring opportunities, the Teen Ayuyus also managed to rotate their players in their game versus New Yangdong FC. Eighteen from the 20-man roster played, while John Bucayo and Terrance Evan Thosert-Belcher stayed on the bench to nurse minor injuries.

"Hopefully, they will get better for our remaining matches. We are expecting to get better results in our last two games," added Angeles, who thanked former CNMI Men's National Team player Joel Fruit and TanHoldings FC standout Cosmos Kim for watching and supporting the Teen Ayuyus match last Tuesday.

The Commonwealth bets were scheduled to duel Japan's Kyoto Kyoei Gakuen yesterday afternoon, while the former's last game will be against Gwangju FC this morning.

"Gwangju probably is the best team in the training camp. It beat Kyoto Kyoei, 7-0," Angeles said.

Meanwhile, aside from having training matches against Korean and Japanese youth teams as part of their five-day training camp, the Teen Ayuyus also attended lectures on nutrition and physical fitness.

Assistant coach Jonathan Takano facilitated the lecture on nutrition last Tuesday morning after the squad's early morning jog and measurement.

"Players have to understand that as athletes they must take care of their body twice as much as non-athletic people by having proper food intake before and after the match," Takano said.

MOC

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held in May and June. Nine teams joined the 12-mile race, while four each competed in female and junior divisions, which both featured an eight-mile course.

There was a neck-and-neck battle for the top honors in the juniors division as the first finishers submitted 1:37:38 against the runners-up's 1:37:40. The third placers were also not far behind after clocking in at 1:40:28.

In the women's division, the champions registered 1:46:57, while the No. 2 and 3 finishers recorded 1:48:48 and 1:54:06.

Meanwhile, MOC paddlers are now busy preparing for the 2017 Micro Cup, which will be held in Guam from Oct. 26 to 29. The club will be the team to watch in this year's competition after a historic sweep of the three races (500m and 1,500m sprints and the long distance 12-mile course) in last year's event held in Palau.

CAROL

From Page 28

all against Lee after the former teamed up with Roopa Bains in beating the CNMI player and fellow Australian Oleksandra Kalachova. Smith faced Lee anew less than two hours after winning their singles match and the Australian duo eked out a 7-6 (4) victory in the first set to push its opponents on the brink. Smith and Bains went on to eliminate the No. 4 seed Lee and Kalachova after an easier 6-1 triumph in the second set.

Smith and Bains are now in the semifinals and will collide against the Apisah siblings, who marched into the Final Four following a tough 6-2, 1-6, 10-8 win over New Zealand's Tamara Anderson and Louise Waite. The pairs of Di Tommaso and Holly Stewart and Valentina Ivanov and Amber Marshall completed the semis cast after the first duo defeated Gadecki and Mays and the second topped Grace Schumacher and Krystal Clarke.

In other results, Robbie Schorr moved into the quarterfinals of the Plate (for players who lost in the first round of the main draw) of the B2 tournament after sweeping Vanuatu's Marlin Hannam, 4-0, 4-1. Schorr will try to enter the semifinals today when he takes on Australia's Corey Clarke, a 4-1, 4-1 winner against Joshua Snowdon-Poole.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	64	49	.566	—
New York	59	52	.532	4
Tampa Bay	58	56	.509	6½
Baltimore	56	57	.496	8
Toronto	53	59	.473	10½

Central Division

Cleveland	60	50	.545	—
Kansas City	57	55	.509	4
Minnesota	55	56	.495	5½
Detroit	51	61	.455	10
Chicago	42	68	.382	18

West Division

Houston	71	41	.634	—
Seattle	58	56	.509	14
Los Angeles	56	58	.491	16
Texas	53	59	.473	18
Oakland	50	63	.442	21½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	66	45	.595	—
Miami	53	58	.477	13
Atlanta	51	60	.459	15
New York	50	60	.455	15½
Philadelphia	41	69	.373	24½

Central Division

Chicago	59	53	.527	—
Milwaukee	59	56	.513	1½
St. Louis	57	56	.504	2½
Pittsburgh	56	57	.496	3½
Cincinnati	46	67	.407	13½

West Division

Los Angeles	79	33	.705	—
Arizona	64	48	.571	15
Colorado	64	49	.566	15½
San Diego	50	62	.446	29
San Francisco	45	70	.391	35½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SSS 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

4Gives FC's Andruw Omelau poses with his Golden Boot trophy in the boys U16 divisin during the awards ceremony for the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Kanoa Football Club 1's Sophia Quintos shows her Golden Boot award in the co-ed U12 division.

F. Marinos' Guine Borja is all smiles after getting the Golden Boot award in the girls U17 age group.

Kanoa Football Club 1's Paulo Quidato shows his Golden Globe award in the co-ed U12 division.

Girls U17's Golden Glove winner Carla Ballesteros, left, is congratulated by award presenter and Saipan Soccer School official Eli Arago.

SSS' Sean Gil scored 17 goals to win the Golden Boot award in the co-ed U12 division.

SSS' Audrey Castro poses with her Golden Boot award in the co-ed U12 division.

Isamu United, SSS, and NMI U16 players gather for a group photo after receiving the Fair Play awards in their respective divisions.

Lamb's slam gives D-backs 6-3 win over Dodgers

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Sports

McIlroy feeling right at home at Quail Hollow for the PGA

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Carol misses semis bid in Fiji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee bowed out of contention in the 2017 Oceania Closed Junior Championships after absorbing back-to-back losses yesterday at the Regional Training Center in Lautoka, Fiji.

Lee first dropped her quarterfinals game against Australia's Megan Smith, who pulled off the victory after three sets. The Aussie won the opening set, 6-4, but Lee came back with a 6-1 triumph in the second to extend the match. Smith then recovered and posted a 6-3 win to complete an upset over the No. 4 seed Lee and advance to the semifinals against compatriot and No. 2 Lisa Mays. Mays moved into the Final Four after also earning a three-set victory against fellow Aussie Emilia Price, 7-5, 4-6, 6-2.

In the other semis pairing, it will be the No. 1 seed Violet Apisah versus the unranked Chira Di Tommaso. Apisah continued to live up to high expectations after sweeping No. 8 and Australia's Ivana Popovic in their quarterfinal game, 6-2, 6-2. The Papua New Guinea netter has yet to drop a set in the singles contest and is the lone Pacific Oceania player left standing in the event, as her sister Patricia earlier bowed to Price in the second round (retired in the second set). Di Tommaso, on the other hand, became the third Aussie to book a semis berth after stunning No. 3 seed and compatriot Olivia Gadecki, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Meanwhile, Smith made it two in a row and three over-

See CAROL on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee, seen here playing in an ITF Juniors event on Saipan last year, was eliminated from a tournament in Fiji yesterday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI Boys U18 National Team captain Ryan Relucio, left, shakes hands with his counterpart in New Yangdong FC before the start of their game last Tuesday at the Changnyeong Sports Park in South Korea.

Teen Ayuyus play better

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Boys U18 National Team's second training match is in the books with the Teen Ayuyus showing better offense and defense in their 0-3 loss to New Yangdong FC last Tuesday at the Changnyeong Sports Park in South Korea.

"The CNMI played solid as a team, preventing and intercepting a lot of forward passes from our opponents. Our team had many scoring opportunities from Sunjoon Tenorio, Joshua De Leon, John Michael Rojas, and Ryan Relucio," assistant coach Jersh Angeles wrote in his report to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

"We lost, but I would say New Yangdong FC is stronger and more technically skilled than our first opponent (Japan's Kunimi High School). I also believe that our team played way better against New Yangdon after discussing our first match. The boys listened to coach Mita's (Michiteru) tactics and they all tried to execute them," Angeles added.

The CNMI team bowed to Kunimi, 1-4, last Monday, and then watched the video of its first training match Tuesday morning before challenging New Yangdong FC late in the afternoon. The squad discussed the attacking, defending, and transition of both teams and players were given the floor to present their thoughts about the match.

When it's time to battle New Yangdong FC, the Teen Ayuyus made the adjustments and employed a tighter defense against the Korean team, silencing the latter majority of the first half before giving up a goal in the 35th minute. The last two goals came in the second half. Then late in the final half, the CNMI had a chance to hit the board when Relucio

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MOC paddlers finish second in Guam race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three Marianas Outrigger Club members joined the 2017 MPRA Galaide Cup Series and two finished second in the V1, 12-mile race.

Jose Quan and Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel teamed up for MOC and made it to the podium after completing the event held in Merizo, Guam late last month in 2:13:14. The MOC duo was just less than two minutes behind champion Ian Iriarte and partner, who clocked in at 2:11:56. Rich Val and his teammate rounded out the Top 3 after posting 2:17:41.

Another MOC member, Rich Salas, competed in the same race and he and his teammate were ranked fifth after timing in at 2:29:57.

Salas, Quan, and Kabiriel participated in the fourth event of the series organized by Marianas Paddle Racing Association. The series started in March with the second and third

See MOC on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Outrigger Club's Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel heads back to shore after he and Jose Quan completed the 12-mile V1 race in the 2017 MPRA Galaide Cup Series 4 held in Merizo, Guam late last month.